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COLUMNIST VIEWS PAST PZPR BASIC ORGANIZATION INERTIA

Warsaw PERSPEKTYWY in Polish No 12, 20 Mar 87 p 7

[Article by Ryszard Swierkowski: "The Party Begins at the Ground Floor," published under the rubric "On the Eve of the Fourth Plenum of the Central Committee of the PZPR"; the first paragraph is a boldface introduction]

[Text] It has been called a great political action, although it concerns the smallest organizations. Like an organism that consists of cells whose health determines its health and condition, so the vision, strength and health of basic organizations determine the entire organized ideological-political movement of two million individuals known as the PZPR.

It is true that the often-repeated and long-known view that a party is as good as its basic organizations, because of its obviousness, does not carry too much of an information load. It functions more like a mobilizing declaration. And yet, if we dwell on the informative content, I believe that under the surface layer one can see a truth which is not all that trivial. It is no secret--and the party proclaims it today with complete openness--that too many party organizations, those "cells" of its living organism, are weak--even very weak. It is true that this can hardly be measured by statistical methods, no more than one can exactly measure where the "average" ends and the "weak" begins, but the silhouette of our collective life leaves no doubt that a rosy picture of the party would simply be untrue. After the unusually profound and dangerous crisis, the party in the past few years has consolidated itself and become stronger, but in view of the diverse areas and fields in which it functions poorly, not to mention erroneously, its overall picture is not only far from an "ideal model" of a Marxist-Leninist party but also from a form of party that could meet the challenge of the present-day scale and quality of actions in the socialist restructuring of society and the conditions of its existence.

We must be aware of the historical sources of the weakness of our movement and the conditions of the development and functioning of the party. Avoiding one-sided evaluations, we can say, however, that during the entire postwar period many factors have favored the qualitative and quantitative growth of party ranks. Above all, we should mention here the unquestioned cultural progress of People's Poland, its revolutionary transformation and acceptance by millions of the people, especially of the working class and the peasantry, and

of its active role in the creation of a new reality. In the early postwar years after the occupation, full of terrible suffering, one could even speak of an enthusiasm of work and general fascination with the newly arising form of social relations. This period, unfortunately, did not last long. Over more than 40 years after the war, unfavorable circumstances and conditions manifested themselves for shorter or longer periods. The years referred to by the shorthand of "personality cult," marked by deviations and even perversions, must have cast a dark shadow on the process of development of the society and the party. Later, errors in the realization of the development concepts, and especially the inculcation of bureaucratic centralism, also led, although in a different sense and scale, to distortions of the life of ideas in the party and beyond it. The 1970's brought about the dominance of technocratism, ritualism and pretense in public life, extremely dangerous for an ideological and political movement. The periodic crises and drama associated with them resulted in repercussions in the ranks of the party, especially in the lowest echelons, as well as a huge "loss of blood" and moral debilitation.

All this--and the list of these negative factors in the development of the party could be continued--entailed the development of bureaucratic attitudes, schematic solutions and routine activities, promoted duplicity and tolerance for empty talk, was conducive to the proliferation of party documents and resolutions in a language devoid of communicative function, created a style imbued with artificiality and posturing and shaped attitudes marked by self-interest, overcaution and cowardice. The main vocation of the party is its historical pledge--changing a stagnant reality--became in practice apologetic worship or false approval of the existing reality.

The wilting of ideological life, which continued for periods of time, produced the unfavorable current situation, where large groups of party members have a vague notion of Marxism and communist ideology and have a wary attitude to "theory," which they often equate with something opposed to "life." They are poorly immunized against alien ideas and political influences.

The Theses of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the PZPR for discussions at basic party organizations before the Fourth Plenum formulate in three sections a large number of specific and even detailed questions concerning the gist of everyday issues facing party members in their work and life. It is desirable that basic organizations or at least the majority of them be willing and ready to give equally concrete, straightforward and realistic answers to these questions. Then we would have invaluable material reflecting the actualities of life. In addition--which is also important--we would have information about the vision and interpretation of reality by the individual party members.

As discussions continue, responses are received at the Central Committee. The Political Bureau wishes to ensure that the plenum of the Central Committee dedicated to basic party organizations, which is the first of its kind in the history of the party, be prepared with live, active and direct participation of these organizations. The value and contents of these discussions lie in

the overall response and, within the limits of responsibility, these responses will certainly be represented in the materials of the plenum. At the time of this writing, I have only fragments of the discussion in the form of letters from PZPR members published in the early February issue of TRYBUNA LUDU. These letters were sent in response to a topic suggested by the paper: "What can be done to make our basic party organization to want more and be able to do more, and how should it be done?" Letters to this organ of the Central Committee, which were also passed on by the editors to the Central Committee, touch upon a variety of questions, although those received by early March 1987 mostly describe the current situation rather than suggesting what should be done to change this unhappy state. Nevertheless, I believe that it is worthwhile to site here some of the views of the writers of these letters.

Inertia on the part of basic party organizations with respect to the issues of their surroundings and false decisions are discussed by Albin Markowski from River Repair Shipyards at Nowa Sol: "In 1985 a new wage system was introduced at our enterprise. The people charged with developing this system were so inefficient that as a result the average time of ship repair became longer: instead of months, up to one year. If one earns 30,000 to 35,000 monthly with a 60-percent utilization of worktime, what is the point of criticizing this payment system? ... Two orders have been put up on the bulletin board. One is a list of individuals classified for work abroad with the signatures of the commission, which includes one of the members of the executive board of the basic party organization; the other is a list of employees disciplined for drinking alcohol on the job, and there again we see the name of the same member of the executive board. For seven years neither the secretary of the basic party organization nor any of the members of its executive board have attended a single operative production meeting."

"The Theses mentioned 'socialist composition' of the management of the enterprise or institution," writes Jerzy Ostrowski from Olkusz, "but rank and file workers call this group simply 'The Gang.' Old experiences have become tradition, and even newly elected leaders often are glad to take advantage of various privileges.... In addition, the instances of old attitudes which persist secretly and have not been fully exposed still undermine the reliability of management groups."

But, on the other hand, we do not always capitalize on good examples. Thus, Alojzy Adamek from the Spolem consumer cooperatives at Wodzislaw in Silesia notes, "At one of the best stores managed by a party member, the staff did not know at all that their popular director was a member of the party." About those in the party who are "equal" and "more equal than others," writes J.K. from Warsaw, "From the information reported of the latest Warsaw conference of the PZPR, we have learned that one-third of the members of the newly elected plenum, including the members of the executive boards, do not belong to trade unions. This means that they have failed to fulfill the resolution of the Political Bureau of their party. Why, then, have basic party organizations recommended them and given them mandates as delegates to the conference?"

The tragic influence of these bureaucratic decisions on political life in the countryside is described in a letter by Krzysztof Hauser from Pinczyce: "In my party organization the situation is tragic. It exists only in Kozięglowa parish committee reports and when it is time to collect membership dues, but it enjoys no prestige in the village and holds meetings only once a year.... The prestige of the party organization has dropped, because nobody in the area considers its opinion seriously. Of 40 members of the organization, only seven have remained. There are no new volunteers to fight within the community." "Many managers of enterprises and institutions," asserts Zbigniew Wojtczak from Konin, "are content with the low profile of party organizations, because nobody then questions their decisions and the basic party organization is powerless in the face of the arbitrary decisions by the administration." A characteristic opinion from a group of craftsmen has been sent in by Mieczysław Szymanski from Częstochowa: "Meetings have become limited to routine discussions of taxes and readings from the bulletin of resolutions; the secretary will also describe the conference at the Central Crafts Administration in Warsaw. And yet, we know well what is going on in the crafts industry. A large number of people provide no services and do nothing but trade. These frauds have illegal cottage workers who produce entirely for these supposed 'craftsmen.' When I raised this issue, they wanted to expel me from the party."

These individual voices illustrating particular instances are valuable as a signal of situations which sometimes are unique but at other times are an expression of more widespread phenomena. It is thus possible to speak of the struggle with evil in general while retaining an irrational and sometimes outright noxious attitude in regard to the real manifestations of evil. Recently, a conference was held at the Central Commission of Control and Revision dedicated to the efficiency of inspections. At that meeting it was mentioned that public prosecutors annually send out to enterprises 30,000 reports of violations of the law or of the existence of circumstances where such violations can occur. Such warnings could be used by the basic party organizations to prevent violations of the law. But often it happens that while many are quite willing to discuss personal matters no one would volunteer to introduce any changes at work. And sometimes it is even worse --there are too many instances where the basic party organization is indifferent to negative phenomena that have been exposed. Are there instances that are even worse? Yes there are. At the same conference, almost every speaker in the discussion mentioned a "common front" of defense put up by basic party organizations and managers of the enterprises that have been inspected. The deputy director of the Superior Control Chamber from Rzeszów illustrated this by an example: Even before the auditing was finished, "protective parachutes" appeared over the heads of those whose jobs were in jeopardy.

The value of a discussion about the role and task of the basic party organizations depends on its specificity, openness and critical force. One can say that from the various reports, largely of a diagnostic character, more general conclusions can be drawn that would help to restructure and change "the existing realities." In this case, it would be advisable to combine the information derived from practice with theoretical reflections and

generalizations. This is exactly the way it should be. One cannot agree with the old opinion still held by some that it is useless to "theorize" about the work of the basic party cells. In the party's striving to transform itself into an ideological-political and organizational body of a high and ever-higher quality, of paramount value are the experience and current practices of its member organizations combined with future-oriented theoretical reflections.

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LOCAL PZPR CONTROL TEAM ON 'ECONOMIC PATHOLOGY' RISE

Katowice TRYBUNA ROBOTNICZA in Polish 6 Apr 87 p 3

[Article by Jan Czypionka: "The Evil Should Be Extirpated: This Is Not a Matter of Choice, but the Obligation of Party Members"]

[Text] We have become used to the term "social pathology" being applied to all kinds of abnormalities, such as alcoholism, drug addiction, avoidance of work and ordinary crime. More frequently, however, the term "pathology" is beginning to be used with the adjective "economic." Inspections by specialized government agencies more and more often reveal instances of economic mismanagement, waste, poor and usually overvalued calculation of prices, improper protection of property from theft, negligent care of equipment and vehicles, poor financial discipline of enterprise and falsified statistics.

We have been unable as yet to create a proper climate in which this evil would have no chance of surviving; to the contrary, the ingrained habits, the atmosphere of indulgence, a frivolous attitude about one's work functions, lack of discipline and drunkenness--all these factors are conducive to poor economic management and reduced productivity and quality of work.

The last plenary session of the Katowice Province Control and Revision Commission of the PZPR discussed measures for counteracting these negative phenomena, whose elimination is one of the basic conditions for not only implementation of the second stage of economic stage but also for the functioning of our economy in general.

As reported by the province public prosecutor, Ryszard Kowalczyk, public property is still in many cases handled as ownerless. Of the total number of suspects in the misappropriation of public property in 1986, as much as 66.5 percent were individuals who stole from their own factories. Of these, 490, or 38 percent, were directly responsible for the property entrusted to their care. Among them were more than a dozen directors, several chief accountants, dozens of heads of departments, stores and warehouses, and also guards and janitors. Thus, the very people responsible for protection of property steal or permit the destruction of the property. This is especially worrisome, in view of the fact that these jobs are supposed to be assigned to properly

selected people. But these "selected" people not only fail to protect property from others, but steal themselves ...

Ludwig Handzlik, the inspector for the Treasury Chamber, pointed to another form of irregularity, where, apparently, nobody is stealing, nothing is disappearing, but ...

Bielszowice Mines at Zabrze in 1983-85 bought boards, timber and wood products through the medium of agricultural cooperatives from private individuals; on these transactions it suffered a loss of more than 33 million zlotys. The mechanism was simple: The suppliers overstated the prices. The mine employees who took part in these transactions did not realize that they were being cheated, according to the inspector, because supplies were taken in without acceptance control at the gate. This mine has also purchased from private individuals audiovisual equipment at the cost of 50 million zlotys, but the quality of the equipment was incommensurably low compared with the price. The documentation was such a mess that, to make things worse, some of the equipment was stolen (to the tune of 6 million zlotys), although the inspector of the Treasury Chamber does not rule out the possibility that the equipment purchased for this sum ... never existed and that the documents were merely prepared for the purpose of withdrawing money from government accounts.

The Elevator Robot Enterprise at Bytom has a similar sin on its conscience; after buying wooden planks from private individuals, it discovered, due to a foul-up with the documentation and improper control, a shortage of materials in the amount of 30 million zlotys.

One wonders what motivates certain managers--but surely it is not the best interest of workers--when they hire for certain types of work teams of sports clubs or farmers' production cooperatives. The workers of Truskolasy Farmers' Production Cooperative charged the Katowice metalworks an extra 17.3 million zlotys, while Baildon metalworks suffered a loss of 7 million zlotys due to overcharges by the Beskid sports club at Skoczow. This latter enterprise recently had a bad string of experiences with contracts signed with enterprises outside the socialized economy. It has concluded contracts with four Polonia firms on cooperation and collaboration and sold them blanks for drills, plates of metal carbide alloys for manufacturing drills for concrete, brick and stone and for lathe cutters, and cores and insulation for manufacturing of welding electrodes. The metalworks lived up to its part of the agreement, but was left out in the cold because the Polonia contractors were not even considering supplying Baildon with imported equipment equal in value to the hard currency price of the semifinished products they received, as was stipulated in the agreement.

The managers of the metal product factory at Myszkow were also generous in their relations with a Polonia firm. The factory leased to this firm two machines for nail-making, which could have been used much more efficiently at the factory, and "as a result of benevolence on the part of the members of the board of directors," according to the Treasury Chamber inspector, the Polonia firm was charged neither for the repair and maintenance it received nor for 509,000 zlotys in taxes paid to the government for the lease of the machine.

The service work cooperative in Pszczynia went even further when it sold the firm Damari sets of bed linen, underwear and nightgowns. Damari provided its labels and ... pocketed the proceeds.

There are also factory managers who, although they cannot increase output in reality, are perfectly capable of doing this "on paper." The director of the Dymitrow mine at Bytom issued a statistical report replete with irregularities, indicating incorrect numbers for coal output and sales. He was reprimanded for this by the provincial control and revision commission. A similar punishment for a similar fault was meted out to the directors of the Szombierki and Andaluzja mines.

The fight against the symptoms of economic pathology is the responsibility of government control organs--the public prosecutor's office, the Supreme Control Chamber, Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate, Government Trade Inspectorate and several other bodies. Violations of the law lead to appropriate sanctions. However, it also happens that proceedings are dropped by the public prosecutor, or that the court acquits a suspect either because of a lack of proof, or in view of the minor amount of damage done, or as a result of recent amnesties or annulment statutes. When this happens to party members, this does not mean that they are automatically acquitted by their organizations and free from reproach. The PZPR statutes and the principles of party life treat all instances of evil much more harshly. One does not necessarily have to be convicted in court to be punished by the control and revision commission.

The chief director of the State Machine Station [POM] at Rudniki, responsible for protection of property, permitted the unjustified sale of a boring machine which resulted in a loss for his enterprise of 1.3 million zlotys; this loss was subsequently written off as a so-called extraordinary expense. Although by virtue of the decree of 17 Jul 1986 the public prosecutor dropped his investigation, the improper conduct of the director as a member of PZPR resulted in a party proceeding against him, which is currently being conducted.

However, the party inspection agencies do not always approach those guilty of irregularities with this kind of strictness. After inspection of the building of the construction enterprise for the coal industry at Chorzow by officials of the Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate, a large number of instances of waste and mismanagement were documented. This resulted in the dismissal of the assistant director of the enterprise, who then took up a job at Fabud enterprise in Siemianow and is already preparing to travel to Kuwait pursuant to a foreign contract ...

According to the resolution of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of PZPR of 16 Nov 1984, the party must initiate and offer political support to actions of the inspection agencies. It is obligated to take steps to raise the efficacy of inspections. On the eve of the Fourth Plenum of the Central Committee of the PZPR, it is important to ponder whether the basic party organizations properly carry out this resolution. There are many indications that this is not always the case.

"The opposition to improper attitudes and misconduct requires of us a greater aggressiveness," said Ryszard Kowalczyk. "Too often the basic party organizations take disciplinary actions against party members only upon receiving a signal from outside--from the public prosecutorial agencies or from control and revision commissions. And yet in most cases people in the closest surroundings of those who must be punished are well aware of the situation and have enough knowledge and sufficient basis for taking these actions on their own initiative. Instances where the decisions of the party depend on the investigations of the public prosecutor or the court and are guided by them are still too frequent."

Worries over excessively cautious attitudes in such matters by basic party organizations were also expressed by Włodzimierz Mokrzyszczak, the chairman of the Central Control and Revision Commission of the PZPR. In describing the ethical and ideological attitudes of a member of the party, his comrades are much better equipped for acting quickly and before control agencies. This by no means suggests hasty steps that could eventually deny justice to the accused, but implies that decisions be thoroughly analyzed; when this is done it always greatly raises the prestige of the basic party organization.

In the report of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the PZPR to the 10th Party Congress we read, "The party has initiated the strengthening of the struggle for purity of social relations and for complete respect for the law. There rises a broad front of legal pressure and preventive and educational efforts against crime and deviance."

In the PZPR Program adopted by the 10th Party Congress, we read the following words: "The party, waging a resolute struggle with deviance in public life, will organize a broad front of social forces to secure the moral health of society." This means that for each party member fighting evil is not a matter of free choice but a programmatic obligation and basic duty.

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CATHOLIC WEEKLY INTERVIEWS RES PUBLICA EDITORS

Krakow TYGODNIK POWSZECHNY in Polish No 16-17, 19-26 Apr 87 P 4

[Interview with representatives from the editorial office of the monthly publication RES PUBLICA, Damian Kalbarczyk, Editor-in-Chief Marcin Krol, and Pawel Spiewak, by Magdalena Bajer: "Against Despair"]

[Question] Go ahead, I am listening.

[Answer] (...) (Law dated 31 July 1981, On the control of publications and public appearances, Article 2, Point 6 (DZIENNIK USTAW Nr 20, Item 99, amended 1983, DZIENNIK USTAW No 44, Item 204)). At the end of 1981 we started trying to issue publications legally, but our several attempts over the past 6 years have failed. Finally, we tried about a year ago for the last time, and after various complications and difficult provisions a few weeks ago we received approval from the Main Office for Control, Publishing and Public Appearances. The publication will appear monthly, in format B5 (like ODRA), with 160 pages, and have a run of 25,000 copies.

[Question] In 6 years (even longer) many things have changed,... (Law dated 31 July 1981, On the control of publications and public appearances, Article 2, Point 6 (DZIENNIK USTAW Nr 20, Item 99, amended 1983, DZIENNIK USTAW No 44, Item 204)) ... [Answer]: ... among our former colleagues there is also a very large number of new people who represent a rather wide range of views. The editorial office includes Wiktor Dluski, Damian Kalbarczyk, Marcin Krol, Pawel Kloczowski, Tomasz Lubienski, and Pawel Spiewak. There are nine people on the editorial council: Grzegorz Bialkowski, Jan Blonski, Michal Bristiger, Pawel Hertz, Jerzy Jedlicki, Krzysztof Kozlowski, Mieczyslaw Pszon, Emanuel Rostworowski, Stanislaw Stomma, and Jerzy Szacki. It is published by an incorporated company of the same name, Res Publica. That is, it is a private publication.

[Question] That is rare in Poland. It is hard to believe. Please give us more information about the extent of your independence.

[Answer] First, we are not subsidized by anyone. We must be self-sufficient. Therefore, unfortunately, the publication will be expensive. Further, we have no "help" from the officials, to which we are subordinate only in the realm specified by law, that is, the censorship law.

[Question] Will interference be noted?

[Answer] Yes. RES PUBLICA is not directly related to the church either, although the group publishing it declares strong ties to Christian ideals and tradition. We are not going to take up internal religious and church affairs, although articles on this subject might appear.

[Question] Let us talk now about what RES PUBLICA wants to be and what will appear in its columns.

[Answer] One more negative. It will not be a social-cultural publication in the usual, traditional sense.

[Question] In terms of content, scope of interest, or form used?

[Answer] All of the above. We want it to be an intellectual magazine.

[Question] That means a part of intellectual life and at the same time a sort of depository for it?

[Answer] More or less. The predominating categories are to be journalism and essays. Economic journalism and essays devoted mainly to history, the history of ideas, philosophical thought, and social thought. The names of the sections are probably characteristic of our assumptions. Now a large social section is to be called: "Another country." The aesthetics section is "Ideas." We are going to have a very extensive book review section, because we want to discuss not only books coming out of Poland -- and this means all publishers -- but also those published abroad, not just those in Polish but all significant books. Important sections of the publication will be reviews of the Polish and foreign press, as well as a review of the Polish press before 40 years ago, that is, an attempt to discuss the basic issues of that day. We would like to carry on a constant sort of editorial showing our views of social, political, and cultural matters that are the fruit of discussion within the editorial office, called "The Year 1987," "The Year 1988," and so on.

[Question] So RES PUBLICA will be an intellectual publication, if we can use an ugly phrase, with a broader scope of interest than traditional social-cultural publications, as the horizon of intellectual life today is broader, taking in both economic problems and ecological ones, as well as the implications of new technologies?

[Answer] That is our ambition, and we want very much to avoid dividing up culture (or any sort of manifestations of intellectual life) into what is Polish and what is going on abroad.

[Question] Future readers would undoubtedly be most interested in the initial *raison d'être*, the editors' stand on basic issues, especially since it is to be the only frame of reference for the publication that is not subject to external factors. A strong bond with Christian ideals says a great deal, but not enough.

[Answer] Of course, we have a position which, under the conditions in Poland, becomes a political stand, despite the fact that we would not want to treat it as such. It seems to us that, as the result of all the changes which have occurred from the middle of the 1970's up to the present day, a very great confusion has come about in the realm of the hierarchy of values and, perhaps of greater interest to us, in the area of the order of things. We want to attempt to give some order to reality in terms of essential categories appropriate for each area. In other words, we would like to write about the phenomena of social, cultural, political, and economic life as it were without considering the "producers" of these phenomena or the various nonessential involvements.

[Question] In rejecting a look at the "producers" and the often profound entanglements, you will have to use something immutable as a basis. Otherwise, you will multiply misunderstandings in your ordering.

[Answer] We want to look for what we consider to be the immutable essential criteria which are binding in European culture, although, to be sure, not in a clear way. The tradition of this culture is long enough for us to be able to compare things happening today with those that occurred previously and to look at the former from a perspective permitting us to view them in a way that is to a certain extent objective. That is our basic position, one which seems important for two reasons. First, because things did reach those conflicts that were unavoidable in our social life and understandable too, but harmful. The second consideration is our deep conviction that despite the adverse external circumstances, our thinking remains free to a significant extent. In the hierarchy of cultural works, as well as in the hierarchy of thought concerning the life of the society, economics, and politics, this order can be introduced without giving much consideration to the circumstances.

[Question] I am afraid that the extent of the confusion and the extent of the order needed are greater than you think. In this connection, I am also afraid that your ambitious aspirations will find a response, which must after all be an effort to open up onto universal criteria or even more, the desire to learn them from the beginning.

[Answer] In sharing your fears, we are optimistic, seeing that on two of the planes that interest us the most, the cultural plane and the political plane, not only the criteria but also the fundamental laws governing them have become known. The values of one of them is beginning to normalize the operation of the other, and it is our intention gradually to put things in order, recalling these laws and at the same time teaching them. What the result will be, we shall see.

A great deal of the first issue will be devoted to the confusion of political dimension and moral dimensions. We will try to show that the political craft can be separated from social morality or political morality, as is done so readily in our country. We are planning (later) an article on political responsibility, in which the author will show that a politician can be responsible for what he does without being guilty.

[Question] I repeat the question: Do not recognize the existence of fixed laws to which the European whole, not just European culture, is subject?

[Answer] Yes, we hold a decidedly antirelativistic position, which is easy to declare, but it is harder to extract from it a positive program for the publication. We think that there are a code and tradition which are hidden but at the same time obvious through great works. As Leszek Kolakowski once said so very well, the facility for self-criticism is a feature which distinguishes European culture, and it is an important part of this code. We set the attainment of self-criticism as a goal that is exceptionally important in view of the Polish situation, in which a number of (wonderful and tragic) circumstances of the past decade have been responsible for our losing contact with this great current of European culture. We want slowly, painstakingly, to direct our path, which has gone off in a direction which is sometimes very interesting but is far away, back towards the main current. For example, if we are going to review books and look for common standards of measurement for them, we will give up any sort of special tariff privileges in terms of political reaction for those that are harder to publish. We want to adopt literary criteria for literary works. We must give a great deal of attention to what is happening in the Western world, and a lot is going on there too that diverges from the main current and is subject to criticism. To even see that current, one must maintain contact with what is happening beyond Poland's borders. The authors running the small regular feature section "Res Economica" said something that fits the publication's whole attitude. They said that it is worth writing about the Polish economy only from the viewpoint of the world economy. Either we are going to be part of the world economy, or else our economy will fall apart.

[Question] It seems to me that it will be difficult to broaden the circle of people who have accepted this. We are all, more than we realize, victims of the circumstances that have side-tracked us, and therefore of the conveyors of emotions and phobias out of which social and cultural solipsism grow.

[Answer] Not everyone to an equal extent, which means that despite our intentions, RES PUBLICA is becoming a publication of the generation. The group of workers and authors consists of people between 30 and 40, and it turns out that among them the emotions, prejudices, and phobias you are talking about are weaker. The number of forward-thinking people expressing the desire to work with us comes as a pleasant surprise.

[Question] Does "forward" mean counting on the fact that in the future something will have to be done and that something must be done even now for a future that is not well known?

[Answer] Our perspective is profoundly pessimistic. We have the strong conviction that the Polish situation is relatively immutable. The problem of escaping amnesia, of getting to criteria that are as clear as possible as well as being somewhat objective, is going to be long and difficult, because there are too many opposing social, cultural, and political processes. It is out of this pessimistic awareness that we get our optimism, our sense that this trouble has to be gone through. Henry Kissinger once said that the world is

heading for destruction but we should act as though we could master these processes of demographic explosion, nuclear arms, and contamination of the environment.

[Question] First you have to believe it.

[Answer] We believe that the effort of taking an active stance makes it possible to get beyond the despair that predominates in society and paralyzes us daily. One of the members of our group, Adolf Juzwenko, noted: "The Pole goes either to church or to some other place where there is also a joyful sense of community, but then he goes back home, sits in front of the wall, and falls into despair, because he realizes that there is not anything more." Now, we are addressing our publication to those who go back home. In Poland there are a very large number of educated, wise, enlightened people, as the period of "Solidarity" showed so clearly. At this point these people need not so much exact political proposals as proposals for intellectual life, for interior life, for spiritual life, and for cultural life. We see these people especially in this generation we were talking about, those who began their conscious life around 1968, who walked a relatively straight path, not living through turning points and not having to take a reckoning on their past. These people are isolated. They do not count on the church, which can perhaps give them a great deal, but only in certain areas. We want to talk to them, count on them, and try to provide them with a response to their loneliness. The subject matter for these joint talks will fit between the past and what is happening in Poland, on various levels, about which we basically know very little. We are counting on help in coming to grips with the changes going on. For example, we want to know what a small Polish town is like today, one that when through the years of Gierek and "Solidarity," and martial law, and now is seeing life go on, its reality having been plowed up through all this.

We are not proposing a purely ideological answer, because we think that such answers are not needed now. "Another Country," means, among other things, that for two reasons, because of the weakening of the leftist milieu's idea-creating role and, on the other hand, the existence of the church, a special situation has arisen in our country in which there is no direct need for severe ideological formulas (although many people are still looking for them). We think that this creates the conditions for interesting people in more basic issues related to a sense of their own lives, a sense of taking part in public life, in understanding politics as a certain existential option, not only for fighting ideological factions, in understanding culture as sharing values, and not sharing in a market governed by brutal laws.

[Question] If I understand, you think that in Poland there has been some purification in the moral sphere, which has become a foundation for a sense of community, but this is not adequate to find objective and universal standards of measurement in the sphere of intellectual life, politics (as you present it), and culture, is that right?

[Answer] We think that the main purpose today need not be to defend our national community but to utilize the fact that we have it, for ordering reality and bring us closer to the European culture we were talking about at the beginning. For that reason, for example, we decided to issue the

publication legally, and this is also why it is neither a government publication nor a Catholic one.

[Question] Although such a formulation itself confuses the order...

[Answer] Yes, but it shows accurately that RES PUBLICA is to be a place for people who do not want or do not need to print either in the state press nor in the Catholic press, one that offers space to anyone without any obligations of belief. In our publication people can speak reasonably openly both about the church and about the political situation being defined by the government leaders.

[Question] I think that many of your future readers are asking themselves whether RES PUBLICA will not nonetheless become a MIESIECZNIK POWSZECHNY, especially given the combining of personnel from TP [TYGODNIK POWSZECHNY].

[Answer] Probably not. By virtue of its tradition, TYGODNIK [POWSZECHNY] has an exceptionally important place in Polish public life, but it also has therefore certain obligations. We are just beginning, which means that we still do not have any obligations, and therefore we can take up issues which would be difficult for them to handle. It will be easier for us to write about various functions of the link between religion and art, very important ones, but at the same time very equivocal. For example, one sees in the theaters the sometimes cynical use of religious formulas to make up for a lack of content. But this is just one point which distinguishes us from publications with which we are friends, such as WIEZ, ZNAK, and PRZEGLAD POWSZECHNY. There is a more basic difference related to the fact that each publication after all operates as a whole. Now to put a text about the details of some sort of novel by Gombrowicz or Ludwik Ferdinand Celino (we will have ones like that) alongside an article in which purely religious problems are considered is different from putting it in the context of "secular" articles. We also hope that we will know how to take up the problematics of Catholic culture (not within a religious context) in a sensible way, showing some disturbing phenomena. For example, we are looking for an author who would write about the contemporary language of homilies. And finally, for various reasons, it is unlikely that people active in the economy and interested in carrying out the reform would publish in TYGODNIK POWSZECHNY. We are not going to avoid this sort of attempt, if they are sensible and not banalities. We think that the deep divisions which occurred in Poland, very understandable ones, should be overcome in certain issues, while in others these divisions play a secondary role and must be treated that way. This pertains mainly to the economy and social life, as well as political life too, indirectly.

[Question] Does "not avoid" mean here to give space to overcoming the divisions or also take part in overcoming them?

[Answer] Sometimes both. We are still more interested in reliably monitoring what is happening in Poland on all sides, such as the creation of new laws, the appointment of various councils, and documents of the Primate's Social Council, when they appear. Reliability can be insured largely by having clearly defined criteria of judgment.

[Question]: I understand that criteria for judging current reality are easier to come by than universal ones, but do you really have such criteria?

[Answer] Our group has already been in existence for 10 years, and it has not fallen apart, despite various contradictions. This ought to show that the bonds linking us are basic in nature, that they are based on agreement both as to basic values and as to the actual criteria for assessing present reality. The fate of our publication will show whether or not they are correct "on the outside."

[Question] I wish you the best of luck. Thank you for the interview.

10790

CSO: 2600/565

BRIEFS

PAPAL GIFT TO BYDGOSZCZ ACADEMY--(PAP)--A diagnostic laboratory equipped with a multipurpose ultrasound machine given by Pope John Paul II was opened at the Allergy and Internal Medicine Clinic at Bydgoszcz Medical Academy. The equipment was given for the benefit of the academy and its patients. The clinic's director, Prof Bogdan Romanski, said that the equipment would facilitate noninvasive patient diagnosis, particularly for heart patients, which make up the majority of the patients. Polish Primate Jozef Cardinal Glemp took part in the festivities inaugurating the clinic. [Text] [Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 14 Apr 87 p 3] 10790

PAPAL GIFT TO GDANSK CLINIC--The third internal medicine clinic of the clinical hospital in Gdansk was enriched on 15 April with a valuable piece of medical equipment donated by Pope John Paul II. It is called a gastroduodenoscope, used to examine the stomach and duodenum. [Text] [Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 16 Apr 87 p 6] 10790

PAPAL GIFT TO HOSPITAL--(PAP)--The town hospital being built in Pszczyna received an ultrasoundgraph as a gift of Pope John Paul II. The equipment will facilitate the process of patient diagnosis in the area of operation of the Pszczyna, Czechowice-Dziedzie, and Zory ZOZ. [Text] [Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 25-26 Apr 87 p 1] 10790

CHURCHES PLAN REHABILITATION CENTERS--(From our own sources)--The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and the United Evangelical Church are entering into the battle against social pathology. This goal will be furthered, among other things, by social drives and various sorts of preventive and moral training efforts. As the result of an agreement between Boleslaw Didyk, Zamosc Voivodship governor, and Edward Czajko, chairman of the council of the United Evangelical Church (RZKE) in Lublin, a recreation and rehabilitation complex will be built by 1990 in the gmina of Bilgoraj. This center will mainly serve young people who have undergone alcohol or drug treatment programs. The chairman of the RZKE gave one of the children from the State Children's Home in Zamosc a housing passbook with a deposit of 90,000 zlotys, and 100,000 zlotys was sent for deposit to the account of the Voivodship Administration of the Caritas Catholic Association in Zamosc. The joint social-moral training initiatives and the pope's approaching visit were the subject of the last meeting between leaders of the Adventists' and Evangelical churches and the political and administrative officials of Zamosc Voivodship. [Text] Lublin SZTANDAR LUDU in Polish 12 Mar 87 pp 1,2] 10790

CSO:2600/565

JANUARY 1987 ECONOMIC RESULTS SUMMARIZED

Prague HOSPODÁRSKE NOVINY in Czech No 9, 1987 p 2

[Commentary by Engineers Marie Hormannova and Alena Polakova, Federal Statistical Office, under the "Information on Plan Fulfillment" rubric: "January 1987"]

[Text] The weather, similarly as in January 1985, affected particularly the areas that are directly weather-dependent: i.e., construction, and freight transportation by common carriers. But the weather made itself felt in industry as well. The growth rates of the basic indicators during January were influenced also by there being one workday fewer than in January 1986.

In industry, fulfillment of the economic plans for gross output was only 94.5 percent; 490 of the industrial enterprises, more than 56 percent of the total number, reported shortfalls. The plan for commodity output was likewise not fulfilled entirely (its fulfillment was 94.4 percent), with 499 of the enterprises (roughly 54 percent of the total number) reporting shortfalls.

Primarily the enterprises in heat and power generation, and in the gas industry, fulfilled or exceeded their economic plans; and the enterprises in nonferrous metallurgy also fulfilled their commodity output plan for January. On the other hand, fulfillment of the production plans was low particularly at enterprises in the chemical, petroleum refining, and building materials industries.

Industry fell short of fulfilling also its January plan for adjusted value added. Its overall fulfillment was 91.9 percent, with shortfalls reported by 528 of the enterprises, 48.3 percent of their total number.

Output in industry declined in comparison with January 1986. Gross output was down by 3.8 percent and amounted to 66.6 billion korunas. Average daily output was down by 0.4 percent. Adjusted value added was also lower, by 6.0 percent, than in January 1986.

Labor productivity in industry, based on gross output, was lower by 4.0 percent in January than in the same month last year (for all of 1987, the plan calls for a 1.6-percent rise); and labor productivity based on adjusted value added was down by 6.1 percent.

Basic Indicators of National Economy's Development in January 1987.
Increases Over Comparable 1986 Period (in percent)

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>State plan(1)</u>
Centrally Administered Industries deliveries for:		
- investments, at wholesale prices	-1.3	.
- domestic trade		
at wholesale prices	-9.4	.
at retail prices	-11.4	.
- export to socialist countries		
at wholesale prices	-11.3	.
at f.o.b. prices	-10.2	.
- export to nonsocialist countries		
at wholesale prices	-17.6	.
at f.o.b. prices	-21.0	.
- other sales for productive consumption and operations, at wholesale prices	-4.1	.
volume of industrial production (at 1 Jan 84 prices)	-3.8	2.3
average number of employees	0.2	0.7
labor productivity based on gross output	-4.0	1.6
Construction		
construction work performed with own personnel	-22.0	2.6
average number of employees	1.4	1.2
labor productivity on construction's basic output	-23.1	1.3
housing units delivered by contracting enterprises	-60.9	7.3
Procurement		
slaughter animals (including poultry)	-4.9	-0.2
milk	-0.6	-2.4
eggs	-11.3	0.2
Retail Turnover		
main trade systems	-2.3	2.0
Foreign Trade		
export to socialist countries	-19.8	2.8
export to nonsocialist countries	-27.3	4.2
import from socialist countries	-22.3	2.8
import from nonsocialist countries	-35.9	5.8

(1) The planned annual growth rates are approximate calculations by the Federal Statistical Office, based on the tasks of the 1987 state plan—approved by CSSR Government Decree No 171/86 and, in the case of foreign trade, by CSSR Government Decree No 170/86—and on the actual 1986 results.

The dropout in production was reflected in the fulfillment of the sales tasks as well. Among the principal destinations of the deliveries, only the planned deliveries for investments were fulfilled, at wholesale prices. In the case of the other principal destinations, the planned deliveries were

not fulfilled entirely in January 1987. Fulfillment was low especially in the case of deliveries for export. On the whole it can be said that, in the fulfillment of the sales plans, there were shortfalls at roughly half of the enterprises making deliveries to the respective principal destinations.

In construction, more than 87 percent of the construction enterprises fell short of the output in their economic plans for January. While overall fulfillment of the planned volume of construction work that the enterprises performed with their own personnel was 77.8 percent, the shortfall in relation to the plan amounted to roughly 1.3 billion korunas.

The volume of construction work that the enterprises performed with their own personnel was 4.8 billion korunas, 22 percent less than in the same month last year; the average daily output was 18.3 percent lower. (For entire 1987, the annual state plan calls for a 2.26-percent [as published] rise in the volume of construction work.)

Fulfillment of the economic plan for adjusted value added was only 74.5 percent in construction, with more than three-fourths of the construction enterprises reporting shortfalls.

In housing construction, the contracting enterprises delivered 214 housing units in January. This was 60 percent fewer housing units than in January last year, but roughly in accord with the enterprises' January economic plans.

Based on the volume of construction work in place, labor productivity in construction declined by 23.1 percent in January (the annual state plan calls for a 1.3-percent rise). Labor productivity based on adjusted value added was likewise lower by 23.1 percent than in January 1986.

Common carriers hauled 39.2 million metric tons of freight in January, which was 9.0 million metric tons less than planned. The cold weather resulted in low fulfillment of the freight transportation plan especially in inland navigation (fulfillment was only 30 percent). Fulfillment was 80.1 percent for rail freight, and 84.4 percent at the CSAD [Czechoslovak State Motor Transport].

In comparison with January 1986, the total volume of freight hauled was lower by 21 percent overall (including a decline of 21.3 percent for rail freight, 18.9 percent for the CSAD, and 72.9 percent for inland navigation).

The railroad's average daily carloadings, in terms of standard freight car units, also declined (by 21.1 percent). The average turnaround time per standard freight car unit rose to 5.01 days, as compared with the 4.01 days planned.

In agriculture, the January procurement schedules were exceeded for slaughter poultry (106.6 percent), eggs (100.3 percent) and milk (100.2 percent). Within the procurement of slaughter animals jointly, the schedule for slaughter cattle was exceeded (102.7 percent), but there were shortfalls for slaughter hogs (fulfilled 94.9 percent) and slaughter calves (94.4 percent).

In comparison with January 1986, procurement this year was down by 8,900 metric tons (-7.3 percent) of slaughter animals; up by 2,100 metric tons (+12.3 percent) of slaughter poultry; and down by 2.8 million liters (-0.6 percent) of milk and by 30.8 million eggs (-11.3 percent).

In domestic trade, the January retail turnover of the main trade systems' organizations totaled 17.4 billion korunas, 2.3 percent less than in January 1986. Overall fulfillment of the main trade systems' economic plan for retail sales in January was 97.0 percent. This includes overfulfillment by Cedok [Czechoslovak Travel Agency] and the Coal Depots, but shortfalls for the other main trade systems.

In comparison with January 1986, the retail turnover rose at Cedok (+8.4 percent), the Food Stores (+0.4 percent), and the Restaurants and Lunchrooms enterprises (+0.2). The retail turnover remained below the January 1986 level at all other trade organizations, most notably at the Furniture Stores, the Shoe Stores, and the Industrial Goods Stores.

In foreign trade, total export and import in January remained below their levels for the same month last year. Fulfillment in January of the annual plan's targets for total export and total import was, respectively, 3.6 and 4.2 percent.

The currency in circulation on 31 January totaled 58.6 billion korunas, in comparison with 54.4 billion a year earlier.

The weather in January was about the same as in January the year before last. (There were 30 days of frost in the CSR in January 1987, the same number of days as in January 1985. The daily mean temperature in the CSR was -7.8°C in January 1985, and -7.9°C in January 1987.) But the production dropout this year was more conspicuous than in January the year before last.

In industry, the dropout in production was roughly the equivalent of 0.25 day's output in January 1985, as compared with an estimated equivalent of 1.2 days' output this year. In construction, the dropout in January this year was equivalent to 3.1 days' output, which is less than in 1985. The overwhelming majority of the enterprises in industry intend to make up for their production dropouts already during the first quarter. But in construction, in view of the seasonal nature of construction work, most of the enterprises are planning to catch up only during the second quarter.

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CSO: 2400/237

FEBRUARY 1987 ECONOMIC RESULTS SUMMARIZED

Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech No 13, 1987 p 2

[Commentary by Engineers Marie Hormannova and Alena Polakova, Federal Statistical Office, under the "Information on Plan Fulfillment" rubric: "February 1987"]

[Text] Output in industry, and especially in construction, was lower during the first two months this year than during the same period last year. At the same time, the number of workdays in February was the same both years. But there was one workday fewer in January-February this year than in the same period last year. Failure to maintain the average daily output calculated from the state plan meant a production dropout equivalent to 0.3 day's output in industry, and to 3.2 days' output in construction.

The low formation of material resources at relatively higher costs (which partially reflected also the higher consumption of fuel and energy, in addition to the cost factors predominantly of a fixed nature) was evident in the unfavorable development of the qualitative indicators of financial management. Unit costs, profitability, and wage intensity departed sharply from the planned goals.

Industry was able to alleviate the January shortfalls in plan fulfillment that occurred in terms of all principal indicators. The number of industrial enterprises reporting shortfalls was lower in February than in January. Adjusted value added in industry reached 47 billion korunas in January-February, 0.7 percent less than during the same period last year. Fulfillment of adjusted value added in the economic plans was 95.6 percent for the first two months (as compared with 92.5 percent for January). Shortfalls in fulfilling this indicator were reported by 546 of the industrial enterprises, roughly a half of the total number. (In January, nearly 59 percent of the industrial enterprises reported shortfalls in fulfilling their plan for adjusted value added.)

Fulfillment of the production tasks also improved slightly in February over January. Overall fulfillment of the industrial enterprises' commodity output plan was 97.6 percent during the first two months (as compared with 94.8 percent in January), although still more than half of the enterprises reported shortfalls. Gross output in the economic plans was fulfilled

Basic Indicators of National Economy's Development in February 1987.
Increases Over Comparable 1986 Period (in percent)

	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Jan- Feb</u>	<u>State plan(1)</u>
Centrally Administered Industries deliveries for:			
- investments, at wholesale prices	.	1.8	.
- domestic trade			
at wholesale prices	.	-3.2	.
at retail prices	.	-3.2	.
- export to socialist countries			
at wholesale prices	.	-0.6	.
at f.o.b. prices	.	-1.6	.
- export to nonsocialist countries			
at wholesale prices	.	-11.1	.
at f.o.b. prices	.	-14.6	.
- other sales for productive consumption and operations, at wholesale prices	.	2.3	.
volume of industrial production (at 1 Jan 84 prices)	2.3	-0.8	2.3
average number of employees	0.1	0.1	0.7
labor productivity based on gross output	2.2	-0.9	1.6
Construction			
construction work performed with own personnel	1.9	-10.0	2.6
average number of employees	-0.5	1.0	1.2
labor productivity on construction's basic output	0.3	-10.9	1.3
housing units delivered by contracting enterprises	-72.9	-72.7	7.3
Procurement			
slaughter animals (including poultry)	0.6	-2.2	-0.2
milk	1.6	0.4	-2.4
eggs	0.2	-6.1	0.2
Retail Turnover			
main trade systems	4.3	1.0	2.0
Foreign Trade			
export to socialist countries	.	-10.2	2.8
export to nonsocialist countries	.	-16.6	0.6
import from socialist countries	.	-12.2	2.8
import from nonsocialist countries	.	4.4	3.9

(1) The planned annual growth rates are approximate calculations by the Federal Statistical Office, based on the tasks of the 1987 state plan --approved by CSSR Government Decree No 171/86 and, in the case of foreign trade, by CSSR Government Decree No 170/86--and on the actual 1986 results.

97.4 percent in January-February, with shortfalls reported by more than 60 percent of the industrial enterprises. Commodity output in industry during the first two months totaled 134.5 billion korunas, which is 0.8 percent less than in the same period last year. Taking the effect of continuous

operations into account, average daily output in industry increased by 1.0 percent. Through the end of February, fulfillment of the annual targets for, respectively, commodity output and gross output was 15.5 percent.

In comparison with the same period last year, industry's labor productivity in January-February was down by 0.7 percent based on adjusted value added, and by 0.9 percent based on gross output. (For the entire year, the state plan calls for a 1.6-percent rise.)

The January-February plan for sales of industry's output was exceeded in deliveries for investments; but there were shortfalls in deliveries to the other principal destinations, although with some improvement over January. The greatest difficulties occurred in deliveries for export to nonsocialist countries (nearly 48 percent of the enterprises that have deliveries for export to this principal destination in their plan for this year reported shortfalls) and in sales for productive consumption and operations (nearly 58 percent of the enterprises reported shortfalls for the first two months). In January-February, deliveries for domestic trade, and deliveries for export (to both socialist and nonsocialist countries) were below their levels for the same period last year. On the other hand, sales for productive consumption and operations, and deliveries for investments were higher by about 2.0 percent.

In construction, the cold weather in January affected plan fulfillment more painfully than in the other branches, and gradual compensation for the production dropout has also been slow for the time being.

Adjusted value added in construction amounted to 4.4 billion korunas in January-February, which is 14.3 percent less than in the same period last year. Overall fulfillment of this indicator was 83.9 percent, but nearly three-fourths of the construction enterprises reported shortfalls.

The volume of construction work in place that the construction enterprises performed with their own personnel totaled 10.9 billion korunas by the end of February, which is 10.0 percent less than in the same period last year. At the same time, the annual state plan calls for a 2.6-percent increase. Overall fulfillment of the economic plans' schedule of construction work was 88.1 percent (nearly 90 percent of the enterprises reported shortfalls in January and February). The annual state plan's fulfillment was 10.9 percent by the end of February.

In comparison with the same period last year, labor productivity in construction during January-February was down by 15.1 percent based on adjusted value added, and by 10.9 percent based on the volume of construction work in place.

In housing construction, the contracting enterprises delivered a total of 901 housing units by the end of February, which is 1.7 percent of the annual target.

The planned volume of freight hauled by common carriers was fulfilled 98.8 percent in February, leaving a shortfall of 530,000 metric tons. The volume

of freight hauled in February by common carriers jointly, and specifically by the railroad, remained roughly at the same level as in February last year. The CSAD [Czechoslovak State Motor Transport] hauled 0.3 percent more freight than last year; it fulfilled its February freight plan 100.8 percent. The February shortfalls were 2 percent (434,000 metric tons) for the railroad, and 39.5 percent (288,000 metric tons) in inland navigation.

The railroad's average daily carloadings, in terms of standard freight car units, was down by 11.7 percent in comparison with the same period last year, and fulfillment of the railroad's economic plan was 88.5 percent. The turnaround time per standard freight car unit in January-February was up by 13.8 percent, to 4.54 days; the economic plan called for 4.02 days.

The February procurement schedules were exceeded for all principal livestock products, except slaughter hogs.

The January-February procurement schedule for slaughter animals was not fulfilled entirely, due primarily to shortfalls in the procurement of slaughter hogs and slaughter calves. The procurement schedules for other livestock products were exceeded in January-February, the most notably in the case of slaughter cattle and slaughter poultry. In comparison with the same period last year, primarily the procurement of slaughter poultry rose in January-February (by 8.2 percent), even though the 1987 state plan calls for a 1.6-percent decline for the entire year.

In domestic trade, with the stores open for business in February the same number of days both years, the main trade systems' retail turnover in February this year totaled 18.2 billion korunas, which was 4.3 percent more than in February 1986. All organizations of the main trade systems jointly fulfilled their February economic plan 102.0 percent.

The January-February retail turnover of the main trade systems totaled 35.6 billion korunas, an increase of 1.0 percent, even though the number of days the stores were open for business was one fewer than in the same period last year. Fulfillment of the economic plan was 99.7, with shortfalls at the Furniture Stores (by 2.9 percent), the consumer cooperatives (by 2.0 percent), and the Food Stores (by 0.4 percent). All the other organizations of the main trade systems exceeded their January-February economic plan.

In foreign trade, the January-February total export, total import, and their breakdowns by socialist and nonsocialist countries, were lower than their levels a year earlier and the targets of this year's plan as well, except in the case of import from nonsocialist countries. In January-February, the annual plan was fulfilled 9.7 percent for total export, and 11.1 percent for total import.

The currency in circulation on 28 February totaled 60.5 billion korunas, which was 3.3 billion korunas more than a year earlier.

FIRST QUARTER 1987 ECONOMIC RESULTS SUMMARIZED

Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech No 17, 1987 p 2

[Commentary by Engineer Vaclav Jezdik, Federal Statistical Office, under the "Information on Plan Fulfillment" rubric: "First Quarter of 1987"]

[Text] Our national economy experienced a series of problems during the first three months this year, and its development departed from the state plan's targets. The growth of output in industry was slower than what the state plan called for, and the output in construction even declined. The qualitative indicators were lower than for the first three months last year, and many of them were even lower than in the first quarter of 1985.

The shortfalls in fulfilling the plan's expectations occurred primarily in January, when the weather was worse than the same month last year and about the same as the year before last. At the same time, the economy was fully supplied with fuel and electricity during the first quarter, unlike in 1985 when there had been supply problems. This necessarily raises the question: Were the results this year fully in accord with the economy's ability to prepare for winter?

While there were shortfalls in industry and construction in comparison with the plan, in agriculture the procurement schedules for slaughter cattle, slaughter poultry, milk and eggs were exceeded. There was a shortfall only in the procurement schedule for slaughter hogs.

At the centrally administered business organizations, the development of unit costs was unfavorable. The input-output coefficient (in January-February) was 1.98 percentage points higher than what the annual plan calls for. Fulfillment of the annual plan will therefore require that unit costs, on average through the end of this year, be lower by 0.30 percentage point than planned. Inventories also rose this year at the centrally administered business organizations, and the planned targets for the use of inventories were not fulfilled. The turnover velocity of inventories declined.

In industry, the planned growth rates of gross output and adjusted value added were not achieved during the first quarter. Even though the situation improved somewhat during March, the January shortfalls were not offset completely. The shortfall in the plan's adjusted value added is striking;

Basic Indicators of National Economy's Development in March 1987.
Increases Over Comparable 1986 Period (in percent)

	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Jan- Mar</u>	<u>State plan</u>
Centrally Administered Industries deliveries for:			
- investments, at wholesale prices	.	9.8	.
- domestic trade			
at wholesale prices	.	0.8	.
at retail prices	.	-0.1	.
- export to socialist countries			
at wholesale prices	.	2.4	.
at f.o.b. prices	.	2.1	.
- export to nonsocialist countries			
at wholesale prices	.	-3.1	.
at f.o.b. prices	.	-10.1	.
- other sales for productive consumption and operations, at wholesale prices	.	4.3	.
volume of industrial production	6.0	1.5	2.2
average number of employees	0.1	0.1	0.6
labor productivity based on gross output	5.9	1.4	1.8
Construction			
construction work performed with own personnel	-3.9	-7.8	2.6
average number of employees	1.0	1.0	1.2
labor productivity on construction's basic output	-4.8	-8.7	1.3
housing units delivered by contracting enterprises	-34.8	-56.3	7.3
Procurement			
slaughter animals (including poultry)	5.5	0.5	-0.2
milk	1.5	0.8	-2.4
eggs	4.4	-2.7	0.2
Retail Turnover			
main trade systems	1.0	1.1	2.0
Foreign Trade			
export to socialist countries	.	-2.7	2.8
export to nonsocialist countries	.	-7.6	0.6
import from socialist countries	.	-3.3	2.8
import from nonsocialist countries	.	4.8	3.9

it was caused by failure to fulfill the volume indicators, and also by failure to remain within the planned level of costs. To achieve the planned growth, therefore, in the remaining three quarters it will be necessary to increase industry's adjusted value added by 7.6 percent on average (the plan calls for an increase of 6.1 percent); and industry's gross output, by 2.4 percent (the plan calls for 2.2 percent). Most of the surveyed industrial enterprises expect to catch up in plan fulfillment by midyear or in the third quarter. But this will require fulfilling not only the planned volumes but also the originally planned production structure and assortment of products, while maintaining suitable product quality and remaining within the anticipated level of costs.

Fulfillment of the enterprise plans varies widely by enterprises. While some enterprises overfulfilled their planned tasks (notably the enterprises under the Federal Ministry of Fuel and Power), about 42 percent of the enterprises reported shortfalls in their gross output, and about 38 percent in their adjusted value added.

The plans for electric power generation and the mining of solid fuels were exceeded during the first quarter. Power consumption, by both bulk and small-scale customers, also increased, especially in March. Thanks to the overfulfillment of the plans at the power stations and in coal mining, there were no power cuts.

In construction, the results during the first quarter remained below the results during the first quarter last year, in terms both of the volume of construction work the construction enterprises performed with their own personnel, and of adjusted value added. The January-March volume of construction work in place was less than during the same period last year. In the economic plans, neither of these indicators was fulfilled entirely.

Of the total number of construction enterprises, about 85 percent reported shortfalls in the volume of construction work in place, and 67 percent reported shortfalls in adjusted value added. If the annual plan is to be fulfilled, the growth rate of construction work in place during the remaining three quarters will have to be higher by 2.7 percentage points than the growth rate anticipated in the annual plan; in other words, the average monthly growth rate will have to be 5.3 percent. To compensate for the dropout in production during the first quarter (on top of the January shortfall there was a further shortfall in March) will be a very difficult task, considering that in 1985 the construction enterprises had been able to compensate only by the end of September for their production dropout at the beginning of the year, and that the dropout this year is greater than it had been in 1985. Construction will have to mobilize all its available reserves to fulfill its originally planned tasks. However, the point is not only to fulfill the planned volume of construction work, but also to maintain its required structure and quality, while keeping the departures from the planned development of unit costs to a minimum.

The situation in construction was reflected also in capital construction. The volume of construction work fell below last year's level. This year, just as last year, deliveries of machinery and equipment not included in the budgets of the investment projects will increase. The deliveries are rising faster and by more than what the annual plan anticipates. At the same time, urgency is lacking in the orientation on machinery and equipment for modernization.

The volume of freight hauled by common carriers increased in February and March, which alleviated the dropout in January. In every mode of transportation, however, the growth rate was lower than what the annual plan calls for. Fulfillment of the economic plan for the first quarter was 93 percent.

The problems in production and transportation affected also fulfillment of the tasks in foreign trade. The annual plan's fulfillment during the first

quarter was 21.9 percent for export (as compared with 23.3 percent in the first quarter last year) and 20.3 percent for import (21.2 percent last year). Fulfillment of the planned tasks proceeded more favorably in trade with the socialist countries.

In domestic trade, the retail turnover's growth rate in the main trade systems was 0.9 percentage point slower than what the annual state plan calls for. The trade organizations reported shortfalls in their economic plans, especially the Shoe Stores (by 5.2 percent), and the Food Stores and the Textile Stores. In comparison with March 1986, when purchases for Easter affected the retail turnover, this year in March sales of food products, vegetables and fruit were down.

Especially the developments in January had an adverse effect on the economy's development during the first quarter. A turn for the better became evident in February and March, but the plan's anticipated level was not achieved. In the remaining months of this year it will be essential to fulfill the planned tasks not only in their overall volumes, but in terms of their structure, assortment and quality as well. At the same time, we cannot compensate at any cost for the shortfalls in terms of the volume indicators.

Maximum attention will have to be devoted to remaining within the planned wage costs and especially the planned unit costs of materials, so as to ensure the prerequisites for a desirable reduction of productive consumption, which is one of the important factors in the formation of national income.

1014
CSO: 2400/282

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION WITH USSR DESCRIBED

Warsaw DZIENNIK LUDOWY in Polish 21 Apr 87 p 3

[Article by Wacław Potocki: "Cooperation to Improve the Food Market"]

[Text] Despite different model solutions, Polish and Soviet agriculture is targeted towards one common goal. That goal is the need to ensure that our nations have food by achieving self-sufficiency in food production. This policy for agriculture was defined and affirmed in resolutions passed by the highest political bodies in Poland as well as the Soviet Union. In our country, it is described in a resolution passed by the Ninth Joint Plenum of the PZPR CC and ZSL SC in January 1983. In the Soviet Union, a few months later, the need to accelerate the development of agriculture and achieve self-sufficiency in food was underscored at the May plenary meeting of the CPSU CC.

The programs accepted for the development of agriculture in both countries envisage that one of the ways in which self-sufficiency in food can be achieved is through mutually advantageous exchange and the cooperation of Poland and the Soviet Union and other countries in our community as regards agriculture and the food economy. This cooperation is nothing new. As neighbors and friends, we have been cooperating for a long time to our mutual benefit. This stems from our Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Treaty and many bilateral agreements and understandings signed by Poland and the Soviet Union. But in recent years our mutual contacts have become very apparent. They will also expand greatly in the future in accordance with last year's programs, understandings and decisions signed by the premiers, deputy premiers and ministers of other countries.

The agreement signed in June between the ZSL and the USSR Kolkhoz Union Board also began a new stage in Polish-Soviet cooperation in agriculture.

The average person in Poland and the Soviet Union assesses their mutual cooperation as to food by what is available in the shops. In our country, it is associated mainly with tea, canned fish, wine and champagne from the Soviet Union, and in that country it is associated with fresh fruits and vegetables, frozen foods, potatoes and flowers. Both countries have something to offer. The exchange of commodities guarantees that surpluses will be sold and that food markets will be mutually enhanced.

Of the socialist countries, the Soviet Union is now Poland's main trading partner. Exports to the Soviet market constitute 10 percent of all of our export of farm-food articles and almost half of the export of these articles to the CEMA countries. Last year the value of turnovers of food items exceeded 180 million rubles. Compared with the preceding one, the present 5-year plan, in accordance with the agreements signed, will bring an almost 40 percent growth in mutual turnovers of farm-food commodities intended for direct consumption. More canned fish, cheeses, tea, wines and cognacs and other food articles will be available in our marketplace. For its part, Poland will send more fruits and vegetables--fresh and processed, and flowers to the Soviet Union. The agreement signed last August on deliveries of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, and flowers, from Poland to the Soviet Union, anticipates that export will grow 55 percent by 1990. On the other hand, horticultural export to the Soviet market during the next 15 years will triple. In these deliveries fresh apples will continue to dominate, with their export growing to 540,000 tons in the year 2000. Fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, and flowers, during this 5-year plan and to the end of this century, will constitute almost 80 percent of the export to the Soviet Union. We have large production capacity and deliveries to the Soviet market will assure production stability and sales for our horticulturists.

Mutual trade turnovers in the farm-food complex are not simply confined to an exchange of food items. Our Soviet partner's extensive offer also covers means of production necessary to our agriculture, i.e., sowing materials (high-gluten wheat, corn and beets), artificial fertilizers, pesticides, tractors, and farm machinery. Deliveries of tractors and farm machines, and equipment for the farm-food industry, are especially important for our agriculture. The "Wladimirce" tractors, of which we import over 13,000 a year, are popular in our fields. We also buy plows, harrows, land-reclamation equipment and flax and hemp gathering machines. In return, we supply Soviet agriculture with potato-lifters, mowers, pickup trailers and grain dryers. Mutual turnovers in tractors and farm machines amount to almost 200 million rubles a year.

In addition to commodity exchange, scientific-technical cooperation and joint solving of problems relating to the development and modernization of food production is very important. In 1985 an exchange of complex cultivation technologies was begun. Poland undertook to familiarize Soviet kolkhozes and sovkhoses with the cultivation of fodder and semi-sugar beets and winter rape. Soviet scientists are introducing into our combines technologies for the cultivation of sugar beets and corn for grain which they have developed and tested. Scientists in both countries are working jointly to produce varieties of potatoes, sugar beets, rape, and sunflowers which are higher-yielding and more reliable. Joint research is also being conducted in animal husbandry and genetics, plant cultivation methods, pesticides, automation, and farm-food processing.

The fact that Polish-Soviet cooperation is growing is shown by the development of new forms of collaboration, including implementation of joint investments and creation of joint production enterprises and cooperation between already existing enterprises. An agreement on the establishment of joint enterprises was signed last October by the premiers of both countries.

Polish-Soviet enterprises will be autonomous economic establishments with mixed capital and mixed management, producing for the needs of both countries and exporting to third markets. An entirely new potato-processing plant being built in Woskrzenice in Biala Podlaska Voivodship is an example of joint investment and a new joint enterprise. A joint enterprise to haul and process fruits and vegetables and produce pectin will also be formed.

At present, over 100 production enterprises in Poland and the Soviet Union which exchange experience and conduct joint development and coproduction work, are directly interconnected. This is especially evident in industries which produce machines and equipment for agriculture. Direct cooperation in the field of development work and mutual coproduction deliveries links the Plock Harvesting Machines Factory with the Combines Factory in Rostow, and the URSUS Tractor Industry Association with the Minsk Tractor Factory. Recently, PILMET in Pilsk, UNIA in Grudziadz and RAFAMA in Rogozina have established direct cooperation with Soviet factories.

Polish-Soviet scientific-technical cooperation and the expanding trade exchange in the field of agriculture and the entire food complex, as expressed in the form of long-term contracts and agreements, is advantageous to both sides. By expanding our food markets, exchanging experience, technologies and new methods, and supplementing our means of agricultural production, we are helping each other. By so doing, we are hastening the accomplishment of the programs for the development of agriculture and the achievement of self-sufficiency in food in both countries.

9295

CSO: 2600/558

ACTIVITY OF USSR ECONOMIC COOPERATION CLUB DESCRIBED

Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 13 Mar 87 pp 1,5

[Article by Ryszard Bilski: "USSR Economic Cooperation Clubs -- Breaking Monopolies -- Neighborly Pressure For Quality -- In Jozefow Without a Set Pattern"]

[Text] (Own information) The Soviet Union Economic Cooperation Clubs have been organized on the initiative of producers who sell most of their products on the markets of the Soviet Union and under the patronage of the Polish Foreign Trade Chamber and the Society for Polish-Soviet Friendship.

"To put it most briefly," said Daria Matusiak, vice-director of the Polish Foreign Trade Chamber's Section On Foreign Trade Economics and the Activation of Export, "these clubs help to efficiently and quickly resolve various problems complicating the lives of exporters. At the present time, there are 31 clubs encompassing more than 800 firms. An important stimulus to their work was last year's signing by the premiers of Poland and the USSR of documents on direct cooperation between enterprises".

Our RZECZPOSPOLITA reporter also noted statements by the chairmen of two clubs in Lublin Province.

Janusz Wojtowicz, chairman of the Lublin Soviet Union Economic Cooperation Club:

"The club represents 34 exporters selling items such as Zuk automobiles, helicopters, industrial construction services, automobile service stations, scales, jointed shafts, agricultural machinery, precision bearings, chemicals, glass products, clothing, confections and food, chiefly fruit, vegetable and flowers.

"The club does not limit itself to exporting material goods because it is also involved in the exchange of scientific and technical ideas and is working together with buyers to remove barriers to the growth of trade. For example, the club has initiated the construction of fruit and vegetable storage

warehouses along the border of the USSR. This gives buyers better goods and the suppliers do not have to pay fines for failing to meet quality requirements. Thanks to the club's efforts, trains carrying export goods from Lublin Province are also moved along the steel and sulfur industries' railway lines".

Zdzislaw Szymczyk, chairman of the Vistula Soviet Union Economic Cooperation Club in Jozefow nad Wisla:

"Last year, our club's planters sold 2777.6 tons of apples on the Soviet market and also supplied 1200 tons to our own canners to be processed into concentrate. The club has a small group of full-time employees and its costs are therefore low. Therefore, almost the entire sum that foreign trade enterprises pay for apples go to the producers. We manage to charge growers only one percent of the value of the exported apples and therefore we can beat the competition from other fruit exporting institutions that demand 3-8 percent from producers.

"Aside from the organization and accounting of supplies, the club helps members procure packing, machinery, tools and other means of production. It also organizes for planters to receive training from specialists from the Institute of Fruit-Farming in Skierniewice. Club members are also entitled to vacation trips to the USSR.

"We operate under the patronage of the Polish Foreign Trade Chamber and the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society and therefore have the opportunity to maintain contacts with representatives of Polish and Soviet foreign trade enterprises and the USSR Industrial Trade Chamber. We are often to co-organizers and hosts of these meetings.

"The club has a great influence on the quality of exported goods because a club member preparing apples for export is under pressures from his colleagues who are often his neighbors or relatives. If he produces a bad product or the buyer returns the fruit, then it is these colleagues and neighbors that suffer considerable losses. That leads to mutual control and the elimination of unreliable suppliers. Colleague pressure and public opinion are a sterner taskmaster than professional inspectors.

"The club has therefore broken the monopoly on fruit exports. It has also proved that it can operate better, more efficiently and more profitably for the producer as well as for the buyer".

12261
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R&D COOPERATION WITH USSR ASSESSED

Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 9 Apr 87 p 3

[Article by Mariusz Dastych: "The Green Light"]

[Text] Everyone agrees as to the principles. Direct cooperation between Polish and Soviet scientific institutes and research and development centers is good for both countries. And full unanimity was obtained on this matter at the last meeting of the Council of Directors in Krakow. But the transition from general principles to everyday practices requires more time and difficulties must be surmounted.

When I asked the secretary of the Council of Directors, Maciej Domanski (he is chief specialist in the Industrial Institute for Construction Machinery in Warsaw) about the status of direct cooperation, he replied that it is hard to talk concretely about an endeavor which is still less than a year old. We also have to make a distinction between the "old" direct cooperation--for example, in the design and construction of hydraulic traveling cranes--and the contacts which have just been made in the field of plant cultivation, hematology, nuclear energy, cooperation in the textile industry, and others.

Priorities are assigned to the joint research contained in the program which is being implemented by the Council of Directors. It is important that direct Polish-Soviet cooperation serve the specific needs and goals of the state and not become a chaotic network of random and insincere ties.

The basic issues are now being solved: the legal bases of direct cooperation, facilitations and priorities, and economic questions relating to mutual services. On the large scale, the legal infrastructure of the direct cooperation between Polish and Soviet enterprises arises in an interministerial group, which is chaired by the deputy premier. Scientific-technical cooperation is only one of the elements of this large endeavor.

The Council of Directors of Polish and Soviet research centers undertaking direct cooperation is that public body which coordinates--on a day-to day basis--the initiatives arising from intergovernmental agreements as well as from the organizations and enterprises themselves. The Council itself numbers 10 representatives from each side. Its joint chairmen are the managing director of the Industrial Institute for Construction Machinery in

Warsaw, Jerzy Zaskurski, and Iwaslaw Pieszkow, general director of the Soviet cable industry. The Council of Directors has already met three times: in March 1986 in Warsaw, in November of the same year in Moscow, and in March 1987 in Krakow. It is made up of representatives of institutes and enterprises which cooperate directly with each other. The production branches are represented--dyes, cable, nuclear equipment, lathes, construction machines, and also the textile industry and agriculture. Reference here is entirely to scientific-technical research and not direct production. Cooperation among enterprises on production is a related, although separate, matter. The full title of the Council of Directors reads "Council of Directors of Polish and Soviet Organizations Implementing Direct Scientific-Technical Cooperation."

The separateness of the legal formalities in Poland and the USSR creates a number of problems in the Council's work. For example, Poland, during the course of the implementation of economic reform, worked out the status of a self-managing enterprise. This is just beginning to be established on the Soviet side. Hence the signatories to agreements or understandings may be--of necessity--enterprises on the Polish side and associations or ministries on the Soviet side. The Council sees to it that agreements signed between partners contain the indispensable clause "direct cooperation." This clause makes things much easier because it is interpreted the same in Poland and in the Soviet Union. One of the postulates advanced at the Krakow meeting of the Council of Directors was that the direct exchange of prototypes, tool patterns, instrumentation, subassemblies, materials, etc., be legally regulated. The point is that this exchange should not be treated according to general rules of commerce, i.e., that it not be subject, for example, to assessment of duty each time. As reported to me recently by director Adam Baraszewski from the Ministry of Foreign Trade, this question was settled by issuing yearly permits for noncommercial activity. On the Soviet side, the procedure for direct cooperation was covered by law, in accordance with Resolution 992 of the PZPR CC and the USSR Council of Ministers dated 19 August 1986 (see RZECZPOSPOLITA No 99, REFORMA GOSPODARCZA Supplement).

The Council of Directors resolved to accelerate the process of entering into contracts and direct agreements and go on to the next stage, that of establishing joint laboratories, design offices, and collectives of Polish and Soviet scientists solving joint problems. But all of this work must be looked upon as a long-term process and not as single decisions.

The future of direct cooperation lies in the initiative from the lower ranks, supported by cost-effectiveness analyses. Certainly this is obvious. Joint scientific research, applications, acceleration of scientific-technical progress, must lead to definite economic results: better and larger production, good design, sales and export. On the Polish side, this often means that the scientific and technical scale of the venture must be expanded and that we must be ensured sales on the large Soviet market and on others also. We already see measurable benefits from direct cooperation begun earlier, even 10 years ago. Among the first 50 agreements signed last year, joint ventures are being implemented in fields such as the development and production of cable (ENERGOKABEL Ozarow, Moscow Cable Institute), production automation systems (KOPROTECH, ENNS), plant cultivation (Institute of Plant

Cultivation and Acclimation in Radzikow near Blonia, Scientific-Research Institute of Farm Cultivation Zodino, Byelorussia, and Sugar-Beet Scientific-Research Institute in Kiev). There will be others which we cannot anticipate right now. The green light which the highest authorities have given for direct, joint ventures is an incentive for the initiative of the institutes and centers themselves.

The era of top-level coordination has passed. During the last two weeks of June, the heads of Polish and Soviet institutes, design offices and other directly cooperating organizations will meet in Warsaw.

9295

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OFFICIALS DESCRIBE IMPEDIMENTS TO 'POLONIA' FIRM COOPERATION

Warsaw POLITYKA (POLITYKA EKSPORT IMPORT supplement No 4 Feb 87) in Polish No 8, 21 Feb 87 p 15

[Interview with Dr. Longin Cegielski, former chairman of the Polonia Firms Chamber of Commerce "Inter-Polcom" and Dr. Wieslaw Kudla, director of the Research Group for Economic Cooperation with Polonia, by Andrzej Goszczynski: "Suspicious Cooperation"]

[Text] [Question] Is a growth in cooperation between state industry and small manufacturers including foreign firms absolutely necessary to progress and modernized production?

[W.Kudla] Cooperation is just the division of labor. We live in a world of commerce and quite naturally, neither large nor small firms can get by without some form of cooperation.

[L. Cegielski] Either large manufacturer, whether it is Siemens, Telefunken or General Motors, works with hundreds if not thousands of cooperative agents. Thanks to the specialization this produces, very good economic results are the outcome. They get a better product cheaper to produce than when they had to make everything themselves. Our economy has very strong needs for cooperation and that includes many opportunities for foreign firms too. However, cooperation is regulated by very inconcise laws and excessively rigid economic practice.

[W.Kudla] Our regulations most often mention production cooperation in which activities in the production of an item are strictly divided. This results in an exceptional style of accounting and cooperation is settled in terms of what is being produced. Meanwhile, industrial cooperation extends itself to an entire cycle from the conception of the product, through licensing, production, export to marketing. This creates conditions under which one partner is involved only in specific stages of the work. Let us look at such an example. Some products are manufactured in Poland but we have never exported them. Suddenly, there comes someone who can make even slight changes

to this product to sell it abroad. That may not come under the present regulations on cooperation but it does create an opportunity for export.

[L.Cegielski] Cooperation between industry and foreign firms has been established on the basis of our general approach to the Polonia firms in which the principle is "let's keep our mouths shut" even if state firms are involved. That is what it is really all about.

Unfortunately, in our conversation, we must avoid giving specific examples, whether positive or negative ones. Anything we say could be harmful to the firms involved. I know of more than 20 cases of cooperation with foreign firms and these range from shipyards to the manufacture of brushes. Everyone tries to keep quiet and cover up.

[Question] What is the nature of these cooperative ties?

[W.Kudla] Either foreign firms supply state firms with certain products or, like small firms all over the world, when they manufacture something more complicated, they have to rely on passive cooperation which means using the goods and services of state firms. In general, the benefits from cooperation between foreign and state firms are mutual. Most often, the given production would generally be impossible to arrange without cooperation which provides imported parts, licensing and technical ideas. Therefore, neither a state firm nor a foreign one could produce the given item on its own. Here is an example. A foreign firm receives an order to press records and immediately faces the problem of where it will make these recordings. After all, it is well known that this must be a professional studio or concert hall. There is also the problem of the record jacket which then brings in the printing industry, etc.

If we really do want to make more modern products and sell them abroad, then we must build up the foundations for cooperation. After all, everyone will benefit from this, all the way from the cooperating firms through the state treasury to the client himself.

[Question] I am glad that you mentioned modernized products because I am under the impression that regardless of all that has been declared, the conditions under which foreign firms must work are more conducive to simple productions. The institutions controlling how decisions are made are less interested in the contribution of technical ideas and licensing than in new buildings.

[W.Kudla] I agree completely. Over 40 years, we have invested enough in all these buildings. Now we must turn our attention to other values such as capital, human initiative and ideas, in other words, everything that is brought in by foreign enterprise and small industry.

[L.Cegielski] There also exist problems of another nature such as the percentage of import involved in cooperation. We must understand that we

cannot produce certain components and therefore have to import them. At the same time, if the amount of imported components exceeds 40 percent of the value of the product, production stops being profitable. We can blame that on the interpretation of the general regulations on the resale of half of the export income to the State Treasury. As a result, it is sometimes unrealistic to use exports to make money for imports. Therefore, we must find a solution in which the dollar costs would amount to 2-5 percent and no more than 25 percent. That would be the next step in increasing cooperative production of modern products.

In most cases, cooperation is temporary in nature. A contract with a foreign business arouses suspicion that the director or chief engineer has taken a bribe. The lack of trust often leads to absurdity. For example, one of the pains in our foreign trade is a lack of packaging. Many foreign firms can supply key industries with imported packaging and much more cheaply than our foreign trade exchanges can make it. But this makes people wonder how it can be bought more cheaply.

[W.Kudla] It must be said quite clearly that the resale to the bank of 50 percent of export income excludes the import of all more complex components and subassemblies. A slight change in the interpretation of the law making it possible to completely recover the costs of modernization would allow us to achieve a much more profitable system.

[Question] Where do you see the most important barriers to development of officially-accepted cooperation?

[L.Cegielski] To be specific, one must be most critical of the financial authorities who I am thoroughly convinced have done everything they could to restrict cooperation. They think of it as a cancer in the organism of state enterprise.

The dispute over the cooperation between Mr. Soszynski of Inter-Fragrance and the Krakow Miraculum Factory was settled at high levels. This was a typical case of cooperation but the control organs qualified it as the highest form of abuse! After a long train of formalities, the matter was finally brought out into the open and it was said that improper had taken place. But how much did it cost everyone? There are many other such examples.

In my belief, the barriers about which we are talking start in the provinces, the business and small industry departments and even more so in the treasury bureaus. I do not want to accuse anyone of bad intentions. Perhaps it is nothing more than a case of bad qualifications. Furthermore, it is probably not an exaggeration to say that there are as many interpretations of the regulations as there are provinces. It is also a matter of the climate around foreign firms which has been created by generalizations based on single and glaring incidents. The truth of the matter is that only 5-7 percent of the firms have been justly accused of improper behavior and even that number is dropping.

What does the average Pole know about foreign firms? That it is a group of people who have come to our country to get rich quick? If even a well-informed official reads and hears everywhere that this is an organized group that acts to the detriment of our economy, it is hard to be surprised at his distrust and suspicion. At the same time, few people remember that these are the firms without which the Polish market would not have such valuable products as measurement equipment for mining and metallurgy, electrocardiographs, electronic muscle stimulators and apparatus for teaching speech to dumb children.

[W.Kudla] I would like to point out still another problem. Applications for production permits have been made part of the documentation of the Chief Statistical Bureau and include an extensive list of products. And what has happened? We are supposed to be innovative and make new things but we are not allowed to do this because we are tied to a specific system describing products that already exist. Small industry must have the freedom to diversify its production and use people, capital, machinery and materials in a more flexible manner.

[Question] Could you give a little piece of advice for directors of state firms that want to cooperate with foreign businesses?

[L.Cegielski] I would start by saying that he should use the help of his legal advisor or an outside specialist to produce a list of arguments based on existing laws and that justify the cooperation. If he wants to act openly, he should settle the matter with the founder's organ.

[Question] What are the chances that cooperation will not end the way it did with Inter-Fragrance and Miraculum?

[L. Cegielski] I would give it an 80-percent chance of success.

[W. Kudla] I think it must also be said that cooperation with small industry and especially with foreign firms will grow only when businesses feel compelled by efficiency. No one will take any risks unless they have to.

12261

CSO: 2600/491

SOCIOECONOMIC COUNCIL ASSESSES OWN IMPACT ON SEJM

Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 11 Mar 87 pp 1,2

[Article by Ryszarda Kazimierska: "Discussion in the Sejm Socioeconomic Council -- 1986 Balance -- Poll On Ourselves -- We Must Be Guided By Prudence and Collective Wisdom"]

[Text] (Own service) The twelfth session of the Sejm Socioeconomic Council was untypical. This time, the council did not prepare an opinion nor did it evaluate any government bill. Rather, it discussed its own self and its achievements in 1986.

The last statistical year can be summed up as follows: the council held 11 plenary meetings at which it prepared 15 opinions. The presidium council created 19 working groups which, aside from preparing drafts of opinions which were adopted at subsequent plenums, prepared four opinions expressing the views of these groups.

The last year can also be judged by the satisfaction of the council members and the efficiency of activities. However, the image is not an entirely unambiguous one. Let us look at the figures again. At the beginning of last month, the council sent out questionnaires that were answered by 188 (75 percent) of the members. Out of this 188, only 45.7 percent felt that the council has a substantial influence on the documents passed by the Sejm, 46.8 percent felt that the council's influence was minor while 7 percent felt that the council had no opinion on the matter. The decided majority of council members (87 percent) responded to the question of how the mass media coverage of council activities. 68 percent of these respondents felt that the mass media gave only partial coverage while 19 percent found the coverage unsatisfactory. Only 13 percent of the respondents found the media coverage of the council entirely satisfactory.

Almost all members of the council consult with their constituents about the views they present at council sessions: 47 percent does this every time the council meets and 52 percent do so from time to time. About 62 percent of the council members felt that there was moderate interest in the work of the

council, 12 percent felt that there was little interest and 26 percent felt that the interest was great.

In sum, council members strongly felt a lack of influence on the Sejm's decision-making caused by the pressure of the groups they represent. Council members felt that the public generally approves of the council's activities but shows only moderate interest and that this is largely due to a lack of information.

The vice-chairman of the Sejm Socioeconomic Council, Jerzy Sablik, spoke about what is later done with the council's prepared opinions: "Fairly often, one could hear it said that 'our opinions have been heard only in part'". Often but not always, reporting deputies as well as some deputies during the plenary sessions referred to the council for opinions. However, there were cases in which a council opinion was made the Sejm's order of the day (as in the case of its evaluation of the implementation of economic reform). However, there have also been cases in which a council opinion played a prominent part in the Sejm's position (as in the case of the government bill to change 12 economic laws).

The council opinion evaluating the course of the implementation of economic reform received a rejoinder from the government. There were even opinions that the council is hindering the work of the central government. However, the council's task is to indicate and warn about problems. For example, Jerzy Sablik pointed out that there are presently about 550 various regulations ("a jungle of incoherent, incomprehensible regulations") on matters of economic reform. A bureaucratic machinery has been set up to regulate the compensatory tax which amounts to barely 1.5 percent of the state's income while the bureaucracy itself costs many times that much to operate.

Another remark about the subsequent work of the council was that it must be guided by prudence and collective wisdom.

During discussion, the following opinions were expressed: the government must make it possible to act but it is also necessary at times to call the government to order because the more criticism the government receives from the council, the less criticism it will later receive from the public. With regard to the Sejm, I also heard it said that if one of its commissions working on government documents do not share the council's opinions, the a representative of the commission should go to a council meeting and learn why its opinions were not considered by his commission.

Summing up the meeting, Vice-Marshall of Sejm Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski stated that the Socioeconomic Council is part of the advisory and consultative system that has been created in Poland over the last few years. It is an important part of efforts to broaden and enrich the instruments of socialist democracy.

12261

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CONSULTATIVE ECONOMIC COUNCIL ASSESSES NEED FOR FURTHER REFORM

Warsaw ZYCIE GOSPODARCZE in Polish No 14, 5 Apr 87 p 2

[Article by Karol Szwarc: "Quickly but not Hastily"]

[Excerpt] The plenary session of the Consultative Economic Council [KRG] on 26 March was devoted to two topics. The first was related to the continuation of a discussion started the previous day with the Committee on Economic Reform on the working plan for options during the second stage of reform. The second topic was the past five years of the KRG's activity under the chairmanship of Prof Czeslaw Bobrowski who, as we reported at the end of last December, has resigned from the chairmanship of that body but remains a member of its presidium.

These two considerations meant that representatives of the highest authority participated in the KRG session: Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State; Premier Zbigniew Messner; Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee, Marian Wozniak; vice-premier Manfred Gorywoda and Marek Holdakowski, director of the Economic Division of the PZPR Central Committee.

Supply Above All

During the discussion, Prof Krzysztof Porwit acknowledged initiation of work on behalf of supply as the main issue in striving for stability. But this may be an unsatisfactory requirement if the dynamics of demand are so high that supply is simply in no position to keep up (Prof Mieczyslaw Lesz expressed the same opinion). Yet activation of supply is a necessary requirement since with a scarcity of goods, the increase in prices will not lead to elimination of gaps but to a shift in the structure of purchases.

Prof Jozefa Kramerowa also broached this issue. She believes that the consumers that buy up basic merchandise determine the nature of stability. In pricing policy it is necessary to consider that undue upward movement of prices for above-standard goods can mean that certain population groups, because of a lack of funds that would enable them to buy these goods, will increase their purchases on the mass-produced goods market.

Docent Bruno Gorecki cautioned against reaching a situation of preservation of the poor structure of consumption in aiming for stability by inadequately considering needs associated with expenditures for non-food items and services.

C. Bobrowski and Prof Urszula Wojciechowska said that in working to increase supply, it is also necessary to be more resolute about bringing in from abroad goods that afford greatly multiplied results in zloty. The point is not competitive import, because we simply cannot afford such a scale of foreign currency expenditures, but rather supplementing consumer goods offerings.

Prof Mieczyslaw Nasilowski recalled that the KRG has already spoken out in favor of expanding the field for investment by enterprises since they are the ones who produce the fastest manufacturing results.

Profitable Action

Dr Stefan Jedrychowski noted that when one talks about the wage-price spiral, the emphasis falls on price controls. Yet it is really wages that rise and price that follow, not the other way around.

Prof Antoni Rajkiewicz believes that tendencies toward wage increases flow mainly from attempts to overtake the leader, e.g., the mining industry. The concern is not only the miners who work "underneath." In this industry we note not only faster growth in employment in administration than among directly productive workers, but the wages of the former are also rising at a faster rate than those working underground.

But high wages in mining are also the result of working on free Saturdays. A. Rajkiewicz proposed organizing mining so that the mines would operate six days a week and the miners five. This is not an unrealistic option, considering that the changing demographic situation makes expanding elections to mining schools possible. Among miners one can also observe growing interest not only in income but in free time as well. Similar solutions could be introduced successfully in other areas of the economy--domestic trade, for example.

The matter of compensation for production on free Saturdays was the subject of a controversial exchange of opinions. U. Wojciechowska offered the proposal of dropping additional payments in these cases and compensating the surrender of free with additional privileges, i.e., trips abroad for work. M. Swiecicki and A. Rajkiewicz objected to this suggestion; they felt that action of this kind would lessen the significance of money in the economy and be fatal to motivation on a massive scale.

Prof Stanislaw Borkowska said that wage inflation is only partly the fault of the wage system itself. The activity of enterprises is not disposed toward achieving appropriate profits, in part because of inappropriate structures in the economy or a faulty price structure. S. Borkowska called particular attention to the still excessive part in compensation played by element of a social nature, which distorts the internal wage structure. Wage ceilings for directors are also a problem.

The system for taxing compensation is evolving in the direction of two formulas--maximum rate and taxation of individual compensation. The rate of simplification of this system depends on the speed of changes in the price structure since this creates the basis for appropriate activity by enterprises. Among the actions expected to set wages in order this year and next is the introduction of new rules for compensating directors and new rates based on valuation of work.

S. Jedrychowski recalled that the KRG has declared itself in favor of a formula for maximum taxation in which, at the beginning of the year, a lower ceiling would apply and be increased during the year as the situation takes shape.

The same speaker admitted that demand is created to excess by the financing system itself, because it is disposed mainly toward how to increase revenues in the national budget. However, a different criterion is used elsewhere--the reasoning starts from how to decrease budget expenditures.

S. Jedrychowski and other speakers referred to the need to increase incentives to save, even in a partially compulsory way. Stocks and securities that are sold to the people were discussed, as were shares in cooperatives.

C. Bobrowski offered a proposal on the need to break with income indexing. In his opinion, income parity between the cities and villages could be superseded by obligating the state to develop the infrastructure in agricultural areas.

A Rajkiewicz proposed introducing the principle of an upper pension limit based on the GDR's model. If one wanted to exceed that level he would have to make individual contributions.

Distant and Nearer Goals and Tasks

Many speakers expressed the notion that the question of stabilizing the economy is identified incorrectly with the consumer market alone. S. Jedrychowski is even of the opinion that stability in the market is a consequence of the situation on the supply and investment market.

Prof Mieczyslaw Miezczankowski said that accepting the assumption that stability will be achieved quickly reeks of excessive optimism, since the economy is experiencing a period of structural crisis. It is therefore impossible to achieve stability and fight inflation at the same time. In his opinion, priority should be given to those solutions that serve to restore stability. There will be time later to bring inflation back to the single-digit level, especially since inflation has both wage and cost characteristics.

C. Bobrowski repeated the point he had made the previous day during the meeting of the Committee on Economic Reform, that after becoming familiar with the economic situation, it is necessary to move on to defining the gradation of the problems, their interdependence and the extent of the impact of particular solutions on the whole. In his opinion, the basic criterion for the changes that can be introduced first is the possibility for reaching decisions

quickly and for social approval at the same time. For these reasons, C. Bobrowski admitted that central reform can be accomplished most quickly, although he conceded that this is an issue that has been insufficiently examined from the detail side and in part from the conceptual side.

M. Swiecicki feels that action that reinforces the self-management nature of reform must be counted among actions of this kind.

M. Nasilowski noted that the essence of the second state of reform is leading, most generally speaking, to the creation of economic constraints. And this, in his opinion, leads to three planes: creating conditions for competition in the marketplace, objectifying prices and reducing the scope of subsidies and introducing tough credit requirements by the banks. He feels that there is a great deal to be done by the end of the 1990s as far as the market and prices and subsidies are concerned. However, credit alternatives will bear fruit most quickly.

M. Nasilowski believes that important for the formation of conditions for competition are limiting the scope of monopolies and reinforcing a multi-sectored economy, including the cooperative and private sectors, and establishing small and medium sized enterprises. Although this is not the main alternative in the next three or four years, activity in this area should not be abandoned.

M. Mieszcankowski also attributed much significance to the question of breaking up monopolies and forming organizational structures in the economy.

J. Kramerowa feels, however, that the economy is a whole and one should not exclude any of its segments from reform.

W. Rydygier noted that monopolistic positions, as he described it, may be no less dangerous than monopolistic structures.

Under stabilized conditions, said M. Nasilowski, the criteria for granting credit are obvious--efficiency is the decisive factor. Under current price conditions, it cannot be applied. It is therefore necessary to differentiate these issues. In one instance, exports would have to be given preference; in another, savings on materials. And along with this, refuse to grant credit to the weakest links, up and including bankruptcy. It is necessary to break with the rule of helping everyone a little bit. This is a disguised form of the old system that justifies the existence of old structures and causes difficulty in eliminating them.

K. Porwit called attention to the state's role as a creator of growth. He said the time has come to break with paternalism and start building a state that would be favorable to individual careers. This same ideas appeared in A. Rajkiewicz's speech.

In summarizing the discussion, Z. Sadowski said that this exchange of opinions confirmed the need for parallel management of work on a long term program of reformation and the program of implementation. It is becoming ever clearer that in certain matters, though they are very difficult ones, it is necessary to act quickly, but one cannot make overly hasty moves. For it is necessary to realize that whatever we do on behalf of stability, we will still have to live a long time without it.

REFORM EFFORTS VIEWED CRITICALLY AT ENTERPRISE LEVEL

Warsaw ZYCIE GOSPODARCZE in Polish No 14, 5 Apr 87 p 7

[Article by Krzysztof Fronczak: "The Second Stage Seen from Below"]

[Text] Measurements of the second stage of reform are made both at the "bottom" and at the "top." The starting point, for obvious reasons, is an appraisal of the results of its workings so far, a critical appraisal, showing weak points. How this is seen from the perspective of Warsaw enterprises was discussed on 24 March at a meeting organized at the PZPR's Downtown Warsaw District Committee [KD]. It was yet another discussion intended to relay to central authorities the observations and comments of the enterprises on how economic and administrative mechanisms are and should be working. The recipients of those observations were present in the conference room: Prof Zdzislaw Sadowski, president of the Polish Economic Society and under-secretary of state at the Office of the Council of Ministers; Leszek Urbanowicz, vice-president of the Polish National Bank and Janusz Patoraki, secretary of the PZPR's Warsaw Committee.

The basic barriers and threats to the second stage of reform were expressed in interesting material prepared by the Socio-Economic Committee of the Downtown Warsaw KD as results of a survey of attitudes and opinions gathered in 24 downtown enterprises. The documents affords a view of both the state of awareness and expectations. It is therefore worth dwelling on some of its findings since I believe that one can safely see these observations as typical, and not only of the groups of plant personned questions about what reform should be, what it has not been thus far and how this came about.

As a rule, all the groups included in the survey, as was confirmed in the document, assessed positively the mechanisms anticipated in the second stage of reform and designed to improve management efficiency significantly, such as limiting subsidies and compelling self-financing by enterprises through the credit policy. Converting accounts from foreign currency deductions into accounts of an asset nature also met with such an evaluation. And that is where the positive statements end. The operation of central state administration and maintenance of indirect management units, obligatory associations, for example, were seen as obvious defects in the mechanisms of reform thus far. If, as a result of overall review and job position certification the administrative apparatus is not limited and its structure

simplified, then, as was confirmed in the document, it can become one of the barriers to implementation of the second stage of reform. It is also necessary to define more clearly the role of trade departments since under present circumstances they give the impression of being totally incapacitated or they want, almost "by hand," in the old style, to control what are, after all, independent enterprises. Efforts aiming toward restructurization also received a negative appraisal. The tax, credit and wage systems do not support changes in structure. As a result, these efforts can end like the memorable "economic maneuver" of 1976.

Also criticized was the lack of stability of systemic solutions and the overwhelming number of ever more detailed legal instruments, which decidedly hinders introduction of rational management into enterprises and is not conducive to future thinking about growth, modernization and improvement in the quality of production. It was stated in the PZPR KD document that the clarity of the wording of legal instruments leaves much to be desired, as does the consistence of a broad range of rules and their much delayed publication. The great number of legal instruments issued means that in some fields things are coming to the point of over-regulation and interpretative dilemmas.

The slow pace of implementing a currency rate and a cost formula for prices as well as a lack of instruments for evaluating legitimate costs do not serve the introduction of an appropriate price policy, one in which prices would be a parameter for economic accounting by the enterprises. As a result, the consumers of manufactured goods pay the cost of poor management, economic accounting is distorted and the opportunity for making imports more rational is questionable to a great extent. All of this calls into question savings of materials, funds and energy assumed in the National Socioeconomic Plan to 1990 as well as the presumed growth in productivity.

Finally, a condition for improving management efficiency in the enterprises is unqualified elimination of uneconomical companies from economic life. In the opinion of the survey respondents, it is necessary to stop protecting from insolvency. Extending the time for restorative proceedings and the unjustified rescue of a "loser" through subsidies or additional relief is harmful from both an economic and social standpoint.

I have selected just a few statements from the rather extensive document of the PZPR's Downtown Warsaw KD. As one can see, they are appraisals that do not differ much from those that are being presented generally in other groups and on other occasions. They can be reduced to a few words: Reform should take the path of more resolute action and not lose the integrity of the play of economic mechanisms. Such comments were made during the discussion. Marek Gasik, a laborer at "Mostostal," summed up what the results of the debate dealt with in a simple sentence:

"It is necessary to stop supporting the weak at the expense of the stronger and better, by subsidizing, amortizing and relief on behalf of everyone being able to have equally."

There were more such statements. There was also the comment that it is hard to detect reform at the bottom because reform does not mean burdening well run

enterprises excessively and supporting failures. The assumption that reform should go from the bottom to the top is also not well received among workers. In effect, the "top" has proved to be unreformable thus far. Somewhat humorous but sadly realistic was the statement by a representative of the City Laundry and Dye Works, who said that much is said about job position certification but at the same time it is necessary to hire additional people to work exclusively in investigating and interpreting rules that are multiplying at an alarming rate.

Leszek Urbanowicz, vice-president of Polish National Bank, commenting on the numerous critical remarks, said:

"We do not lack the political will to introduce economic constraints. It is worse when it comes time to apply them to specific cases. Guided by the principle of the superiority of economic mechanisms, this year the bank absolutely does not consider the impact of external factors in its evaluations of enterprises. The basic standards in the evaluation is the firm's guarantee of lasting credit capacity, not conditions outside of it that "water down" the evaluation. Against this background very difficult situations arise."

Many enterprises, said L. Urbanowicz, are still able to get by. There are those whom the bank has refused credit, yet despite this they are operating successfully, taking advantage of commercial credits and old, informal arrangements. Many also do not make use of created conditions; for example, the flow of financial resources among enterprises is very poor and there is little interest in securities.

Prof Zdzislaw Sadowski complemented this and other remarks with this thought:

"Everyone wants stability; not everyone wants the means that are to lead to that stability. And the basic question is how to achieve that state. Yet one cannot wait with folded hands. It is necessary to demand not so much financial material resources as options and mechanisms that could set them in motion."

This last sentence was addressed to the director of the "Centrum" department stores, who earlier had deplored the total lack of investment in his firm. Prof Z. Sadowski proposed a solution applied successfully in Hungary where the "Skala" department stores offered securities to the people in order to obtain investment funds.

"If such an option is not yet possible here," said Prof Sadowski, "perhaps it would be worthwhile to demand its introduction more emphatically."

Janusz Patorski, secretary of the PZPR's Warsaw Committee, also talked about the idea that one cannot stop at solutions that come from above and accept only prepared formulas and about the need to show initiative. Unconventional thinking and initiative are often tied to the need to break patterns and habits and destroy informal personal arrangements. Party organizations have an important role to fulfill in this work.

12776
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WROCLAW FAIR REVEALS WEAKNESSES IN COMPUTER INDUSTRY

Warsaw RYNKI ZAGRANICZNE in Polish No 47-48, 20 and 22 Apr 87 p 8

[Article by Andrzej Pasikowski: "Infosystem '87--Computer Education about Impossibilities"]

[Text] Wroclaw, like a village maiden, had decked itself out in what is most fashionable--computers. This occurred because of the First International Computer Exhibit, Infosystem '87. This event was to highlight the 120th anniversary of PRZEGLAD TECHNICZNY and do this in an interesting and useful way. Its goal as to present opportunities for computer applications and spread the benefits arising from the introduction of computer technology into all areas of the national economy.

The choice of Wroclaw was not coincidental since the city is still seen as the center of Polish data processing, mainly because the largest manufacturer in the field--the Elwro works--has its headquarters there. Yet in recent years a peculiar decentralization of the industry has occurred and more than 80 other Polish firms registered at Infosystem--state enterprises as well as Polonia and foreign companies and partnerships.

But anyone who would draw conclusions about the strength of our industry on the basis of numbers alone would be making a big mistake. Besides a few major industrial plants under the Mera name, the majority are small entities that often employ just a few people. And a great number of them do not put much effort into manufacturing activity or do not do any at all; despite this they are doing extremely well. If what they were offering at their booths in the Hall of the People had originated at least partly in Poland, one could be satisfied. Unfortunately, that is not the case because equipment of the IBM XT/AT, though of somewhat poorer origin, continues to dominate. But how can one complain about the small firms when the big, mature industry is no more imposing. Admittedly, a variety of equipment, including printers from Mera Blonie and terminals and personal computers, were displayed at the exhibit in Wroclaw. But upon getting better acquainted with it, it appears that companies have practically no chance to acquire the equipment, to say nothing of private users.

This situation has prevailed for years and despite constant growth in production, which all the manufacturers mentioned, not much is changing for

the better. The reasons for this have been known for some time but Bronislaw Gwizdala, director of the "Mikrokomputery" partnership, described them most accurately. Of the many components necessary to make a final product--a microcomputer for example--such as electronic subassemblies, technology, machines and equipment, we have only one in Poland--capable people, but that is a bit too little. That is why "Mikrokomputery," a partnership that has gathered together the biggest powers in electronics, will by the end of this year have manufactured--considering the accumulating difficulties or the demand alone--as many as 2,000 of the sought-after "Mazowia 1016" computers. So the line for them in Poland is getting longer, not shorter. Those who will not or cannot wait will go over to the competition, and at higher prices. For the time being, the supply gap has been filled by importing 700 MIK computers from Bulgaria, which are competitively priced and therefore are selling like hot cakes.

But the problems of the domestic industry remain unsolved. Director Gwizdala laments the shortage of sub-assemblies most, and why not, when 30,000 monitors from Mera totally disrupt production. In addition, the firm's statutes evoke a great deal of emotion. As a partnership, it is treated the same as other entities of that kind; in other words, it cannot buy a vehicle directly from the state, for example, and it waits in the same line as tradesmen in the office for gasoline. On the other hand, there is a lack of agreement on unconventional forms of activity such as compensatory purchases of necessary components.

The shortage of components and sub-assemblies has been a daily topic in this field for two years. Regardless of which manufacturer one turned to at Infosystem, one heard, "I would make more, but I have nothing to make it with." But there are those who are able to manage. In this regard, one can count as on of the typical example Mera Elzab, a plant known for its production of monitors, and not just in Poland. There is a shortage of sub-assemblies there too, but the plant decided to buy them at "Bomis." It is more expensive but at least production does not suffer because of it.

Mera Zabrze brought to Wroclaw a 16-byte ComPAN which, as the name itself suggests, originated in the Slask division of the Polish Academy of Sciences. It is worth taking notice of this equipment for two reasons. First because it is a completely Polish project combining the best features of 8- and 16-byte equipment while making use of the rich library of software for IBM XT class computers. In addition, as Zygmunt Korga, commercial director of Mera Elzab, stressed, ComPAN can be purchased immediately. When one adds that the price of this system, which includes three terminals and a 20-megabyte memory of the Winchester type from the Japanese firm NEC, is not exorbitant, it makes for a certain opening in the dark picture in this field. It seems that finally the massive pressure both from manufacturers, who are constantly begging for an assurance of growth opportunities, and customers, who simply want computers, will begin to produce results.

During Infosystem, there was a travelling meeting of the presidium of the Council of Ministers' Committee on Research and Technological Development, chaired by vice-premier Zbigniew Szalajda. The present state and future of computer manufacturing were assessed at the meeting. It is worth recalling

that within the framework of the plan for computerizing Poland, seven projects dealing strictly with data processing have been implemented. When we add that besides this, the government has placed several specific orders with manufacturers, including 100,000 educational computers [missing line of text] Elzab and 50,000 printers from Mera Blonie, the plans seem enormous. But are they realistic?

During Infosystem there were negotiations whose result should be a certain improvement in the supply of sub-assemblies. Director Janusz Ekiert of "Metronex" unveiled a bit of a secret when he mentioned the possibility of starting up consignment stocks of electronic sub-assemblies from Asian manufacturers. If only this would happen as soon as possible. But the question arises, what have all the interested parties done up to now in the matter so critical for the industry. For it should be noted that one can see overproduction of standard sub-assemblies in the world and many companies, especially in Southeast Asia, take a rather flexible position on both the range of products offered and the method of financing.

Another basic problem that remains to be solved is the matter of implementing the resolution on computerizing the economy. All of those I interviewed said that it does not work in practice. It seems that in the present situation, with a delay of several years at the very start, radical action should be undertaken. Among other things, it has been suggested that all receipts from exports should remain in the hands of the enterprises in this field.

Wroclaw's Infosystem soothed our conscience for a few moments. After all, we finally have computers, though not of our own manufacture. But such a solution appears to be unacceptable over the long term. The costs of importing finished goods are simply too high for the state as a whole. In any case, all the socialist countries have adopted the strategy of foreign purchases in minimum quantities and this was extremely noticeable in the exhibits at Infosystem.

The socialist countries were the largest and most visible group, after the Polish exhibitors. It is enough to note that such well known firms as Elektronorgtechnika from the USSR, ISOTIMPEX of Bulgaria, Videotron from Hungary, KOVO of Czechoslovakia and Robotron of the GDR came to Wroclaw.

Infosystem was certainly a successful event, so it is even more regrettable that so few Western firms came to Wroclaw. Actually, only ICL, the largest British computer manufacturer, is to be reckoned with on the world market. The great number of computer exhibits that have taken place recently in Poland means that foreign firms are forced to choose among them. Soon the largest commercial event in Poland, the Poznan International Fair, will begin and we will undoubtedly see more renowned firms there. Prestige produces results. Yet in 1988 participants in the next Infosystem will meet in Poznan; let us hope in broader company this time, since the theme of the event is to be expanded by electronic sub-assemblies and telecommunications.

12776
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PROGRAM FOR APPLICATION OF ELECTRONICS ASSESSED

Warsaw ZYCIE GOSPODARCZE in Polish No 15, 12 April 87 p 5

[Article by Krzysztof Fronczak: "What Next in Electronics?"]

[Text] As many as three Sejm committees--the Committee on Industry, the Committee on Research and Technological Development and the Committee on the Economic Plan, Budget and Finance--dealt jointly on 26 March with an evaluation of the implementation of the plan to computerize the national economy and the plan's future.

Earlier the delegates visited 21 industrial plants and six research and development facilities. Unfortunately, the deliberations of the joint Sejm committees spoke poorly of what is happening in Polish electronics. One might say that anyone can see how things are, if only in the marketplace. What is worse is that this is only the surface of extremely disturbing phenomena that have their roots much deeper.

This situation was shown from many sides. Andrzej Sokolowski, vice-chairman of the Planning Committee, said that the plan for computerizing the national economy contained in the resolution of the Council of Ministers No 72 in 1983, and its amendment, Resolution No 57/1984 by the Government Presidium, could be, as he said, consummated only on the scale which economic capabilities allowed. This benign statement, although completely true, does not express the fact that this major blow toward computerizing the economy to a great extent missed the mark. And it did not help to surround the enterprises implementing the program with tax relief and depreciation exemptions, credit on convenient terms, exemptions from investment deposits or allocation of wage preferences. In any case, many of these benefits remained only on paper and there were very few well-disposed toward this attraction.

Andrzej Sokolowski showed that the potential for the base of production for the electronics industry is growing steadily. In the years 1983-85, production of electronic sub-assemblies increased by 55 percent and products from the electronics industry by 64 percent. By 1990 it is anticipated that the growth rate will be 82 points higher than in industry as a whole. It is hard to enter into a debate as far as the numbers are concerned. Yet the question remains: Is this really so much?

The Planning Committee representative then talked about anticipated expenditures for computerization in the years 1986-1990. About 170 billion zloty is to be designated for production development, including \$370 million for investment imports. It is assumed today that this will afford a savings of 180 billion zloty on materials and 25 billion zloty on electrical energy consumption and production of electronic equipment for general use with a value of 130 billion zloty.

Janusz Maciejewicz, minister of Metallurgy and Machine Industry, talked at length about the difficulties with which the executors of the computerization program are struggling. The effect of these tensions is the fact that up to now barely 83-96 percent of the amount of production assumed in the program has been achieved, while investment goals in individual plants have been implemented at a level from 65 to 89 percent. J. Maciejewicz said that Poland's payment system is hindering the country's electronics growth most. We are not not complaining about a shortage of zloty. However, there is a severe shortage of foreign currency for investment. Besides the aforementioned \$370 million, another \$400 million will be needed in the years 1987-1990 for consumer goods imports. Yet minister Maciejewicz said openly that it is difficult to expect the electronics industry to fund itself during the current five years. We cannot assume greater exports to the West but increased sales of products to Warsaw Pact nations are possible.

The head of the department of metallurgy and the machine industry devoted much attention to that branch's organizational questions and the free flow of capital within it. "Within the bounds of the economic system in force, we have achieved nothing so far, and so it must be changed," he said. He referred to the former concept of obligatory associations for all companies in the field, regardless of which parent agency they belong to. Controversy continues over whether the flow of funds and the foregoing formula are to pertain only to the sub-assembly industry, e.g., the base, or to the entire field. The minister expressed regret that these proposals had not gained the acceptance of the Sejm Committee on Industry. Committee chairman, delegate Stanislaw Opalko, later explained that it had not formally considered Minister Maciejewicz's idea because he had addressed it directly to the committee and bypassed standing procedure, e.g., the Government Presidium and the speaker of the Sejm. Yet it is a fact that delegates opposed the proposal because it limited company self-management.

As a conclusion to his speech, minister Maciejewicz talked about the not so distant past when the need to develop electronics, which supposedly we could not afford, was underestimated. He used the example of "Polkolor" which, in his opinion, proved that it is more profitable to build color televisions than, as some once wanted, to grow mushrooms on those premises.

Unfortunately, the minister did not add that in order to buy the obviously excellent products of "Polkolor," one first must grow mushrooms, and on a rather large scale.

Jan Antosik, vice-president of the Supreme Chamber of Control [NIK], presented the post-inspection reflections of his institution. He said that the needs of the economy are not being satisfied and the opportunities created by

computerization are not being utilized. The share of the electronics industry in industrial production as a whole does not exceed 3 percent; in other words, it is at the same level as in the 1970s. Its internal structure, in NIK's opinion, is worse than in 1982. A lack of sufficiently high production and its poor quality have forced and still force imports. The question is, where are those dollars to come from? From coal exports alone?

In the years 1981-85, 16 billion zloty was spent on the research base without significant results. Most of the work performed has not found a practical application. Progress is lacking in technology. Polish electronics is some two generations behind as far as world technology is concerned. The computerization program, said J. Antosik, was not conducive to coordinated action between the electronics industry and metallurgy and chemicals. As a result, there is a shortage of manufacturers of electronics products, not just electronic components but also sheet metal, plastics and adhesives, for example. Organizational paralysis has been observed since 1984. As a matter of fact, it is still unknown whether what is in the resolution or the National Annual Plan's [CPR] appendix is binding. The chemical industry, for example, does not feel compelled to implement the program because no funds are allocated for that purpose for chemicals in the CPR. Indeed, the lack of consistency between the computerization program and the one- and five-year plans was a frequent subject at the joint meeting of the three Sejm committees.

Delegate Mieczyslaw Fracki presented the conclusions of the inter-committee group. By way of introduction he suggested reversing the question, can we afford electronics, and asking what will happen if we do not become seriously involved in it. He noted that this is a strategic field--90 percent of the items on the embargo list relate to electronics. Anyone who does not develop the field will lose cultural contact with the world.

"In formulating computerization programs we were first among the socialist countries," said delegate Fracki. "Since then a tragedy has commenced--we are merely making programs." In the 1970s we held second place, after the Soviet Union, as regards the level of technique and technology among Warsaw Pact nations. Today we are not a partner at all. In Fracki's opinion, the misfortune lies in the fact that so far, piecemeal solutions have been applied in implementing the program. Consistency of action was missing. In mid-1986 one could even hear the voices of high officials in the economic administration that Resolution 77 and later amendments to it had already ceased to be valid.

In arriving at the conclusions, Mieczyslaw Fracki proposed adopting the principle that computerization of the national economy is one of the main goals in economic strategy and that the tasks arising from it should be decisively included in future CPRs by allowing for a pool of zloty and foreign currency and defining preferences for companies implementing the program. A lack of competent management indicates that a discretionary center located in one of the field's ministries will not work. What is needed is supervision at the level of vice-chairman of the Planning Commission or an electronics consortium provided with appropriate resources and responsible to the president of the Council of Ministers.

The inter-committee group also proposed many detailed solutions; for example, it offered for consideration the advisability of establishing an Electronics Development Fund, creating an Electronics Development bank, building two new research and manufacturing electronics centers (although Warsaw's "Cemi" cannot extricate itself from slow moving investments--author's note); it also called attention to the need for closer cooperation with Warsaw Pact countries.

It is hard to render the entire course of the Sejm's discussion in a few pages. I selected only some of the comments that show the state of Polish electronics. In conclusion, I will quote from a speech by delegate Cezary Wolf who offered, dispassionately but aptly, this diagnosis: We want to rescue the economy by rescuing electronics. Yet it is necessary to organize the economy so that it would want to be computerized. I have survived many programs that collapsed, one after another, because what was an effect and what was a cause were not differentiated.

12776

CSO: 2600/554

OPINION POLL GAUGES PROBLEMS WITH CONSUMER SERVICES

Warsaw ZYCIE GOSPODARCZE in Polish No 18, 3 May 87 p 14

[Text] The Public Opinion Research Center analyzed the polls it has conducted up to now on problems relating to consumer services. In the opinion of those polled, most painful of all were the price increases on basic necessities and services (97.7 percent of the respondents said they were painful, 1.7 percent said they were not painful, and 0.7 percent had no opinion) and the shortages of consumer goods and poor service in retail trade (respectively, 86.8 percent, 9.6 percent and 3.3 percent). Another serious complaint was the amount of time and energy people were forced to waste (80.3 percent) and the administration's relationship to the citizenry (72.7 percent). Along with the feeling of anxiety about many matters of everyday life was the general belief that this worry would not be temporary.

In public awareness consumer services are linked with the activities of the government. When there are unsolved problems, expectations that the government will do more rise. This applies particularly to housing construction, to which the government paid much too little attention last year, according to 86.3 percent of the respondents; the health service, 69.8 percent; availability of consumer goods, 69.7 percent; social welfare and the status of annuitants and pensioners, 57.8 percent; and education and schooling, 52 percent. At the same time, 61.9 percent of the respondents felt that the situation in housing construction deteriorated last year, but that the availability of consumer goods, in the opinion of 46.8 percent, improved. Changes in the health service were rated unfavorably by 29.1 percent and favorably by only 9.9 percent; in social welfare and the status of annuitants and pensioners, respectively 17.3 percent and 19.9 percent; and in education and schooling, 15.6 percent and 11.4 percent. (The remainder did not see either improvement or deterioration.)

Schools, health services and preschools are facilities which are regarded as the most necessary and also those which the respondents would willingly help to build. Of the buildings which should be built as soon as possible, 61 percent of the respondents (second place from the standpoint of frequency of mention) said shopping plazas, but the declarations of assistance in construction were two to four times fewer than in the case of a school, health service or preschool.

There is need for more public control over certain fields and institutions in which operations are unsatisfactory determined. This applies primarily to services in retail trade. A large number of respondents believe that it is necessary (26.9 percent) and even indispensable (39.5 percent) to appoint an independent organ who would stand in defense of civil rights. Respondents who found themselves in a situation in which they were damaged by a private individual, would more readily turn to the appropriate offices (47.1 percent of the replies), than to the court (33 percent), Citizens Militia (16.9 percent), or prosecutor (16.1 percent), who perform their duties--in the opinion of those polled--passably, at the very most.

Also observed was the reduction in consumer services in view of the increasing inability to afford them. This applies to travel, cultural events, etc.

There are differences in opinion on how the state administration organs function. How they are rated depends primarily on how effectively a matter was settled and how the persons involved were treated.

The officials themselves complain about having too many duties due to the need to take care of matters which are unrelated to their job (35.2 percent), poor work organization (33.7 percent), the wrong working conditions (23.3 percent), too many legal regulations, difficulty in interpreting them, and frequently they contradict each other (15.9 percent), cadre shortages (10.1 percent), and too much reporting and bureaucracy (7.4 percent). Only 11.2 percent of the officials said that nothing about their work bothers them.

In assessing the size of employment in the state administration, officials at the basic level pointed to shortages of cadre, mainly in their own offices, as distinct from the volvodship level where, in their opinion, there are too many employees. The work in the offices at the basic level would be improved, according to 36.9 percent of the employees, if there was less cadre turnover and the necessary number of permanent, full-time employees. The rating of the work would also be better if the officials improved their qualifications (29.4 percent), organized their work better (27.9 percent), were better paid (18.8 percent) and had better working conditions (14.5 percent). Only 16.9 percent of the officials spoke of the need to improve work discipline and courtesy of service.

According to those polled, some cadre changes should be made, but...by reducing the number of officials. Almost every second respondent (47.5 percent) said that there are too many of them.

Definitely the worst opinion expressed by the respondents concerned contacts with the housing administration (unfavorable ratings exceeded favorable ones), and the best concerned the health centers (69 percent of the opinions were favorable). The state administration offices received less than half of the favorable opinions, which were based most often on efficiency, speed of settling a matter, friendliness, politeness, honesty, and conscientiousness.

Those departments in the state administration dealing with census records (largest number of favorable opinions, lowest number of unfavorable ones), finances and health, had the best reputation. However, the departments

dealing with housing matters and allocation of means of farm production, had a bad reputation.

It is interesting that in another poll, workers in industry, when asked what was a deciding factor in the successful settlement of a matter in some institution or office, gave first place to their own energy and resourcefulness (54.6 percent), followed by who they knew and personal influence (52.7 percent), presenting the matter properly (49.2 percent), mood and politeness of officials (46.4 percent), money (20.3 percent), and the legitimacy of a given matter (16.4 percent).

9295

CSO: 2600/581

ROLE OF MANAGER IN ENTERPRISE VIEWED

Warsaw KURIER POLSKI in Polish 5 Mar 87 p 3

[Interview with Henry Sadownik, president of the Scientific Society of Organization and Administration (TNOiK), by Krystyna Doliniak]

[Excerpt] [Question] The managers are complaining about the imprecisely defined range of their authority. As the recent poll by the Public Opinion Research Center (CBOS) showed, even on questions of wages they are seeking support from the outside. This, therefore, is somewhat of a game without rules. Has the legal system, in your opinion, precisely established the relationship between the manager and the top authorities and between the manager and the workforce? What should be changed?

[Answer] Here, too, I would be careful in making judgments. The fact that managers are seeking support from the outside speaks well of them. Anyway, it is hard to assess such positions. But let us return to the main point of the question. At one time I expressed the view that the managers' range of authority should be more closely defined, although many management theoreticians felt that such a precisely defined "division of roles" is simply impossible. I now tend to agree with the opinion that the general legal regulations are adequate, although they are not yet being fully utilized. However, all changes to these regulations should be based on experience, not on theoretical considerations. Experience has proven that we do not yet have any good and validated criteria for evaluating enterprises and their managers. The systems now being used, e.g., by the subsector management offices, are too detailed and incomplete, and that is why mistakes in cadre policy are occurring. The issue which must be settled is also the right of the manager to choose his assistants. Because he is the one who is fully responsible for the enterprise, the decision should be his to make and the workers' council should limit itself to expressing an opinion about the candidates.

[Question] Such a solution was proposed in the memorable packet of 13 laws changing the rules of reform. This was then regarded as an attack on the competence of the self-managements...

[Answer] I think that the more important question is the actual position of the manager in the enterprise. Although he is only one of the three managing "bodies,"--in addition to the workforce's general meeting and the

workers' council--he makes most of the decisions and bears full responsibility for them. When financing is "soft," the scale of this responsibility and the degree of risk are small. But they will be much larger when we apply economic pressure.

[Question] I am afraid that then there will be a shortage of candidates for the position of manager. The risk today is badly rewarded. On the list of wages in some enterprises managers are in the second hundred.

[Answer] Managers' salaries are regarded as something quite shameful. The head of an enterprise who earns less than his subordinates is suspect. For example, it is believed that he gets "money on the side" from the ministry. When we talk about the manager's status, the high qualifications, the strenuous work and the risks that he takes, and then see that he takes home less money from the enterprise than some unskilled employee, all kinds of suspicions and speculations abound. That is why I think that a manager should receive a high salary, in keeping with growing requirements.

9295

CSO: 2600/581

'DISNEYLAND' PLANNED NEAR WARSAW

Warsaw KURIER POLSKI in Polish 1 Apr 87 p 8

[Text] Soon we will be greeted by Donald Duck and Mickey Mouse. Not only San Francisco, Tokyo and Paris will have a Disneyland, but Warsaw also. Between Podkowa Leśna and the village of Owczarnia, on a 10-hectare parcel, a number of structures, modeled after the famous amusement park in Los Angeles, will be built.

Of course, the most popular one, and not just with the children, will be a jungle with exotic animals and a river full of menacing man-made crocodiles and hippopotami. A canal now near Owczarnia will be deepened. Special pumps will supply 100,000 cubic meters of water per hour to give the river a rushing current. Two "old" 19th century steamers will sail on the water areas, each carrying 300 passengers. The ships will be a gift from the Kosciuszko Foundation. In addition, there will be a scenic railway, a cave with ghosts, and a huge merry-go-round, carrying 500 people. Other sure attractions will be pavilions with science-fiction figures, a railway with monsters, and tunnels of love with bucolic scenes. McDonald's will build three restaurants in Disneyland and there will also be selection of other eating places for the adults accompanying the children: Chinese, Italian and Greek, and two coffee shops operated by the Viennese firm AIDA.

An agreement was signed today at City Hall between the city authorities and David Moore, managing director of Disneyland Corporation. The Americans will build and equip the entire operation by 1991. Also, together with a consortium of banks from the Ivory Coast, they will loan Poland money for the Disneyland project. Repayment will be on terms very favorable to Poland--in the form of deliveries of china and spirits.

9295

CSO: 2600/558

BRIEFS

WARSAW-MOSCOW TRADE--(PAP) A Warsaw delegation under Mayor Jerzy Boleslawski has returned from Moscow. In the headquarters of the Executive Committee of the Moscow Council of People's Delegates, the members of the delegation met Moscow city authorities. They also visited the Moscow Municipal CPSU Committee. During their visit of several days, they became acquainted with the general plan for the development of Moscow, urban management and environmental protection. They also visited Moscow's municipal management facilities, a construction complex, many commercial establishments and a new metro station presently under construction. Jerzy Boleslawski told our PAP correspondent that "Our meeting with the authorities of the capitol of the Soviet Union was very pragmatic in nature. We discussed proposals for solving specific problems such as an exchange between the trade palaces of both of our capitols. An agreement on that matter will soon be signed. We also discussed the idea of creating a joint Warsaw-Moscow trade enterprise. Our hosts were very interested in our experiences in the area of trade cooperatives and agencies. We decided to organize the 'Warsaw Days in Moscow' by the end of August". [Text] [Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 14-15 Mar 87 p 9] 12261

CONTRACT SIGNED WITH 'IKEA'--The export-promoting exhibit, "Polish Furniture," now being held in Poznan, is the largest affair of this type thus far. The offer amounts to \$75 million for next year and \$15 million for deliveries this year. The exhibit is attracting a great deal of interest on the part of buyers from the East and the West. The Swarzedz Furniture Factories signed a huge contract with the Swedish firm IKEA, which sells its furniture and also our Polish furniture in 17 Western countries. IKEA will furnish modern production lines and full engineering equipment for a factory being built in Mosina. It is one of the branches of the Swarzedz Factories. Deliveries are valued at \$5.5 million. How will we pay this new debt? Swarzedz signed a long-term contract for delivery of its products to IKEA. Deliveries during 1987-1993 will exceed \$50 million. Thus the cost of the engineering equipment, which will represent the latest world achievements, including an automated line, will be more than covered. Deliveries for IKEA will also include furniture and mattresses produced in Mosina. Of the smaller contracts we should mention the one signed with the Hartmann firm from Beelen in the FRG for furniture of the Rubens and Rotterdam type, valued at \$3 million. A contract for the same amount was signed with the West German firm Schider for oak and pine furniture. Talks are underway with the London company, Polish Timber Production. The items being discussed are oval pine tables and upholstered corner pieces. [Text] [Warsaw DZIENNIK LUDOWY in Polish 7 May 87 p 1] [9295]

HEALTH PROBLEMS, PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST AIDS DISCUSSED

AIDS Monitoring in Bulgaria

Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian 16 Apr 87 p 2

[Interview with chief physician of Republic Blood Transfusion and Hematology Center, Dr Petko Vutkovski, by Rumyana Strugarova of the Newspaper TRUD; date, place, and occasion not given: "How Is AIDS Monitored in our Country?"]

[Text] Every day three new cases of AIDS are discovered in the world. The experience by now accumulated necessitates some changes and reevaluations of the groups at risk and of the carriage of the infection. For 2 years now research has indicated that the key factor in the transmission of the AIDS virus is blood constituents and biologicals produced from them.

We asked the chief physician of the Republic Blood Transfusion and Hematology Center, Dr Petko Vutkovski, to comment on this question.

[Answer] The blood donation system and especially the Republic Center have already set up an AIDS diagnosis laboratory. It is equipped with apparatus and also has trained personnel. The tests that will be made at the transfusion-hematology centers will be skirongovi (mass-scale, prophylactic) and according to the most sensitive--[?Ely's]--method. It does not diagnose AIDS. Its results turn out positive, other than 100 percent for AIDS, for certain other diseases as well. Later on other special laboratory investigations will determine more precisely whether the effect refers to AIDS or not. From December 1986 up till now 4000 blood donors have been tested by this method, and happily there have been no positive tests. Annually in Sofia alone about 80,000 people give blood. Testing is done every time the blood donor appears even though the test yielded a negative result on a previous blood donation. This method is the safest from two perspectives. It proves to the blood donors themselves that they are healthy and precludes their carriage of the virus. On the other hand, prophylaxis is assured for thousand of patients who in the course of treatment receive blood and blood biologicals.

[Question] In Czechoslovakia, Poland, the Soviet Union, GDR and other countries the testing of blood and blood products is done on a mass scale. What is the situation in our country?

[Answer] The problem is that AIDS is monitored now only at the Republic Blood Transfusion and Hematology Center and in regular blood donors. Attempts are being made to discover Bulgarian tests and the research has not been unsuccessful, but they require time in any case. And there is no time to lose. We still do not make a repeated and mass-scale test of every blood donor because there is a shortage of diagnostic tests, because the reading instrument has not been delivered, and the laboratories do not have the necessary personnel to do the testing.

[Question] The Bulgarian Red Cross receives scores of questions as to whether blood donation carries any risk. Would you discuss this aspect: blood donation and AIDS?

[Answer] I must declare clearly and unequivocally that blood donation as a procedure can under no circumstances be a source of infection. We work with individual needles, individual blood-taking systems, banks, with instruments and equipment which are sterilized and identified in advance. They are taken out of the package directly in front of the blood donor and destroyed, again in front of him, after blood is taken. Therefore the procedure itself can cause neither the transmission of, nor infection with AIDS. On the contrary even, the procedure can become a check on whether every blood donor is healthy. The unjustified fear may come from confusion of the two procedures--blood donation and blood transfusion. Actually, blood donation is absolutely safe. The danger is if untested blood is transfused from a virus carrier.

Blood donation is a humane deed and every healthy person should participate in it with the personal conviction that, without harming his own health in any way, he is saving the health and life of patients who have lapsed into a grave condition. The need for donated blood is continually increasing because as a result of progress in health benefits and expansion of the volume of highly specialized medical care, the use of blood and of blood biologicals for therapeutic purposes is growing.

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By Decision No. 74 of 24 March 1987 the Bureau of the Council of Ministers ordered the Ministry of Public Health to ailot, not later than the end of April 1987, additional foreign exchange for the import of diagnostic tests, instruments and other means for the mass monitoring of the relevant contingents, and biologicals. The operational construction staff is to see to the erection of the building intended for an AIDS laboratory by the end of May 1987.

Individual Responsibility for Health

Sofia ANTENI in Bulgarian 6 May 87 p 4

[Article by Zlatko R. Angelov: "Health Is in the Hands of the Healthy--National Program to Control Socially Significant Diseases--Lifestyle--Mental Equilibrium Most Important Condition"]

[Text] On 29 January 1987 the Social Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic adopted a National Program to Control Socially Significant Diseases. I refer to the first health program of its kind with a departmental character, formulated on unified scientific doctrine and adapted to the criteria of the World Health Organization (WHO). It employs the activity of eight key scientific institutes and has been adopted for operation by 23 national departments and organizations.

The following groups of diseases have been declared to be socially significant: cardiovascular (arterial hypertension, ischemic heart disease and cerebral insult), malignant neoplasms (localized in the lungs, stomach, colon and rectum, mammary gland and female genitalia), diabetes mellitus, chronic diseases of the respiratory system, mental disorders and traumatic injuries.

The adoption of a national program to control the above-enumerated diseases is a result of the alarm aroused by the deterioration of a number of health and demographic indicators. This alarm should encompass all our public opinion, literally the entire population, because protection against socially significant diseases is no longer under the control of physicians, but depends on each individual's style and way of life. Let us therefore recall that these diseases are the cause of over 83 percent of total mortality in the country (1985); occasion 50 percent of the loss of work days; cause over 71 percent of primary disability; and, especially important, strike more and more frequently people at their most creative age between 40 and 60. The average lifespan indicator is at a standstill; natural increase is low and tends to decline; the occupational sick rate and industrial traumatic injuries are increasing; our country holds a leading place in cases of acute cerebrovascular disease and is significantly in the lead in frequency of myocardial infarct; the percentage of phobic and anxiety syndromes is increasing.

The factors resulting in a threat to the health of the Bulgarian are rooted not only in his unhealthful lifestyle and passive stance towards health, but also in his skepticism about the possibility of maintaining his health by non-medicinal means. Let us enumerate the main harmful factors: twice as much salt and sugar consumption as necessary and half again as much as necessary of animal fats; addiction to tobacco (Bulgaria ranks 10th in the world in number of smokers) and abuse of alcohol; excessive--and often avoidable--contact with hazardous and carcinogenic factors of the work and domestic environment, and underestimation of environmental pollution; psychosocial contacts of conflict and subjective distress in the course of realizing one's personality potential; the increasingly complex road and transportation situation; increasing sedentariness as a result of the improper adoption of the achievements of scientific and technical progress.

Unfortunately, the most prevalent health stance in our country is the following: I was born healthy; if I get sick, I will take pills or have an operation and get well again. This is redolent of primitivism, but it is a sad fact! And that is why there is such panicky fear of illnesses for which it is known that there is no drug. But in fact all so-called incurable diseases are avoidable through the adoption of a healthful way of life (the latest example of this is AIDS). Obviously we think that the health information that we

receive in abundance does not apply to us, but to some abstract citizens. And if some illness strikes us, we expect the physician to do everything. It is about time to realize that our health is in our own hands since its maintenance depends on our way of life, i.e., our regime of work, nutrition, sleep and sexual contacts, on engaging in sports, on setting our personal goals properly, and on our ability to communicate with others. What we all ostensibly know--prophylaxis--likewise is not a matter for the physician alone. Everybody knows about the maxim that it is easier for us to prevent a disease than to cure it. But today that maxim does not exhaust the meaning of prophylactic action. And that is the following: a change to a healthful way of life and an aggressive campaign against risk factors. Bluntly speaking, we have all become risk factors! The time is past when dread diseases were due to invisible "animalcules"--today these diseases are, by and large, conquered. Today, dread diseases are due to our negligent attitude towards our own mind and body.

Therefore I venture to emphasize the problem of mental health. To a great extent, lifestyle is a reflection of the individual mind, so that if we appeal for a change in lifestyle, we have to place our reliance on mentally healthy individuals. And more important, the mentally healthy individual is in a position through mental self-control to protect himself, and by his example also influence others around him. Moreover, this self-control is so important because all nonmental, i.e., somatic (bodily), socially significant diseases are more or less conditioned by the individual's mental equilibrium.

The group of mental diseases is only the tip of the iceberg since it includes a negligible percentage of the population. The target of modern psychiatry is people who, though they have mentally normal behavior, are bearers of behavioral and psychological factors predisposing towards somatic illnesses. In this sense, the red light did not just come on today since the percentage of cases of depression with phobic tension and personality insecurity does not cease to increase. Today they amount to 10 percent of the population. These states reflect subjective distress. They are transitory, but they result in elevation of blood pressure and blood sugar and in a tendency towards carcinogenesis, etc., and because of their mass-scale character and social etiology, health-care and managerial authorities must concentrate their attention on them. If we actually want to make a radical change in the prevention of socially significant diseases, first and foremost we must create conditions safeguarding the working person's mental health. And mental health includes stress, self-awareness, equilibrium between goals and possibilities, and the autonomy of individual decisions--these elements directly affect the cardiovascular and immune systems. From a more general perspective, mental health represents a transfer of values and behavioral models from one generation to another: therefore it is most propitiously formed under the influence of parental concern during earliest childhood, while later on it is maintained by the individual's degree of socialization.

The creation and preservation of mental health, therefore, are the principal axis around which society's public health resources should be united. And these are the greater, the more capable society is of mobilizing its capacity for assistance and mutual assistance. A society that has unified goals cannot help but place its reliance on creative partnership, cooperation and friendship, on sympathy and mutual assistance. If these are present, health will not be a Rubicon to be crossed, but another partner in man's workday.

STATE OF RELIGION, ATHEISM ANALYZED

Sofia POLITICHESKA PROSVETA in Bulgarian No 4, 1987 pp 34-44

[Article by Senior Scientific Associate Krustyu Krustev: "Religious Faith and Atheistic Education in Our Country"]

[Text] Under socialist conditions the process of eliminating religion is an aspect of the overall trend of freeing the awareness and behavior of the people from all types of spiritual alienation and enslavement, mastering a scientific outlook and developing socialist humanism. Marx writes that liberation from religious alienation is a process of returning man "to his human, i.e., to his social way of life" (K. Marx and F. Engels, "Such." [Works], vol 42, p 110). That is why the struggle for freeing the human mind and behavior from religious views and shaping a scientific outlook plays an important role in the overall process of building a developed socialist society in our country.

Socialist changes in our country and the ideological and educational work done by the party and the social organizations, as well as the historically established atheistic tradition, have contributed to turning Bulgaria into a country of mass atheism. Religious ideas and beliefs are alien to the tremendous majority of the people.

Sociological studies on religion conducted of late in some okrugs confirm this statement. Religious people among adults account for some 10.9 percent in Sofia, 13 percent in Burgas Okrug, 12.68 percent in Veliko Turnovo Okrug, and so on.

Naturally, religion is weakest among young people. A major trend in religious relations in our country is a decline in religious faith among the young generation and in the percentage of young believers. Atheism has scored its relative and absolute highest gains among the young.

Socialist society does not need any religious supplement or interpretation of its objective and activities. Gradually the influence of religion is diminishing in Bulgaria. Its functions in the main areas of social life, such as economics, politics, education and culture, have been eliminated. Its influence in daily life has declined significantly. Religion has retained its influence essentially in the family and private lives of some citizens. It is

through them that it indirectly influences social life. The direction in which religion in our country exerts its influence is not from society to the individual, as was the case during the presocialist system, but from the religious individual to society.

The majority of believers today are working members of the socialist society. Their awareness and behavior are influenced not only by religion and religious organizations but also by socialist reality, socialist ideology and practice, science and the practical utilization of scientific achievements.

A major manifestation of the legitimate process of surmounting religion under socialist conditions is the reduced number of its supporters. The main trend in the areas of religion and atheism under socialism is achieving gradual freedom from the influence of religion.

This trend is based on and implemented under the influence, above all, of socialist socioeconomic and political conditions prevailing in our country. It is also a base for the development of production forces, the development and improvement of production relations, cultural and scientific and technical progress and the active participation of the working people in the practical building of a socialist society.

The development of socioproductive, political and cultural activities under socialist conditions helps not only to eliminate obsolete concepts but also to formulate scientific ideas and concepts which are accepted by the working people and the young.

Another basic trend which is manifested in our country is protecting the nonreligious population, young people mainly, from religious influence. This trend becomes leading under the conditions of victorious socialism and building a developed socialist society. Why? Because currently the predominant share of the nonreligious population consists of people who have never been religious. Thus, for example, only 10.01 percent of the adult nonreligious population in Sofia consists of former believers who have become free from the influence of religion, whereas the remaining 89.99 percent have never been believers. The respective ratio in Stara Zagora Okrug is 8.84 and 91.16 percent. Bulgaria became a country of mass atheism thanks above all to protecting the nonreligious people from the influence of religion.

To sum it up: three basic processes are characteristic of religion, religious relations and atheism under socialist conditions: the first is liberating the mind, behavior and way of life of believers from the influence of religion and religious organizations; the second is protecting the nonreligious segment of the population (the young above all) from religious influence; the third (which is determining under socialist conditions) is mastery of a scientific-atheistic outlook and its implementation as a principle and motivation in the behavior of working people and the young.

Evolution of Religion and Religious Beliefs Under Socialist Conditions

The successes which were achieved in surmounting religion and mastering a scientific outlook and in shaping atheistic convictions should not be

overestimated. It is true that a Marxist-Leninist outlook is dominant in our country. Nonetheless, it is still not the outlook shared by all members of society. Religion retains a certain influence and positions in public consciousness and individual awareness and, in some cases, becomes energized.

The stipulations of the February 1974 BCP Central Committee Plenum, to the effect that we must not underestimate the efforts made by religion to establish itself as an institution and an ideology, retain their political and ideological significance. We are witnessing an enhancement in the activities of religious institutions in the country, which is a prerequisite for preserving a relative stability in the area of religious beliefs. A process of updating religious ideology is under way. Some new trends in our religious feelings have appeared. These new features make the religious situation in the country quite conflicting.

That is why the importance of the outlook and of conceptual upbringing has increased. Scientific atheistic upbringing, which is conceptual in nature and essence, means not only a stage of social development or a level of political and moral standards but also taking into consideration the characteristic trends in modern religion and religious beliefs in our country. What trends and processes are we referring to? First, the updating of religious ideology.

Today religious ideology is forced to take into consideration changes in society and in the minds of the believers. Its modernization affects less religious ideas themselves (divinity, religious immortality, religious dogmas) than the religious interpretation of real phenomena and the values of life and culture, such as the meaning of life, work, socialism and happiness. Its purpose is to hinder the process of liberation from religious influence.

The economic, political and socioclass changes which took and are taking place in our country in the course of building socialism also led to changes in the political orientation of the churches. They adopted loyal positions toward the state. The political evolution of the churches is paralleled by an updating of their social views and the adaptation of religion to socialism. The churches do not set themselves the task of building some kind of "new society" or offering a separate model of socialism. They are making efforts to find a place for themselves in socialist society. Orthodoxy promotes the idea that socialism is the age-old dream of Christian missionaries, that it is a requirement of "Christian conscience and Christian social spirit." Orthodox theological literature claims that it prepared the awareness of the people for accepting the new society through its sermons on social justice. It is pointed out that the church should be considered as the inspired assistant in reaching the ideal of fraternity, equality and freedom. In this case, it is a question less of depicting Christian religion as socialism than motivating and substantiating real socialism from a Christian point of view. The Christian substantiation of socialism is based, as a rule, on religious morality. However, religious theory and doctrine as a whole continue to oppose socialism. This indicates the existence of a contradiction between the adaptation of churches and religious organizations to socialism, on the one hand, and specific church activities aimed at the religious indoctrination of believers, on the other.

The updating of the church's sociopolitical views make some people almost believe that religion is offering a new view on society and the individual and that it is not alien to social progress.

In order to maintain the regulatory and communicative functions of religion, the church and theology are increasingly trying to ethicize, anthropologize and psychologize existing religion and religious beliefs and to present religion as a psychological and moral support of the individual, ensuring his overall spiritual and moral development. This is used to prove the "objective" value of religion and in some cases makes nonreligious people believe that religion is necessary and useful under socialism as well.

Religion interprets phenomena less from the conceptual-cognitive viewpoint than from the positions of religious humanism and religious values. A process of its anthropologizing takes place. We note a further reorientation of religious dogma toward human problems at the expense of global problems which gradually stop being the basic topic of theology and religious sermons. Priority is given to the concept that "serving God means serving man." The connection between science and religion is emphasized less in interpreting the problems of nature and society than are problems of the nature of man, the meaning of human existence and humanism. Attention is drawn to the fact that religion and science cross and "supplement" each other within man. That is why atheistic education should take into consideration the fact that the struggle between science, scientific philosophy, on the one hand, and religion, on the other, takes place in the conceptual area, mainly in the area of human problems.

The fact that under socialist conditions there is a separation between church and state and that the church is not directly involved in social life offers it the possibility of providing a "special" interpretation of some phenomena in our reality. Quite frequently religious personalities give credit for successes in youth education also to the church, while negative phenomena and actions are explained by the fact that the church is unable to exert an active religious-moral influence on the population, the young in particular.

Clerics and ministers of religious sects are aiming their sermons at the young generation, dealing essentially with sociomoral and other problems of interest to young people. Another fact used in this case is that for a significant percentage of believers religion appears above all as a religious-moral doctrine and moral prescriptions and norms. Some nonreligious citizens in our country, including young people and members of the intelligentsia, also identify religion with morality. The main topics of contemporary sermons in churches and houses of prayer of protestant sects deal with problems of education and, respectively, religious-moral upbringing. They display an aspiration of ascribing all contemporary virtues to religion or, more specifically, to Christian religion. Particular emphasis is put on discussing problems of the social ideal of society, the sociomoral ideal of the individual, etc.

Churches and religious organizations tirelessly emphasize that religious standards and prescriptions are the foundations of morality and that no morality is possible without them. Priority is given to universal moral

standards and rules of behavior, which appeared long before the appearance of Christianity, as a reflection of practical life and relations among people, subsequently embraced by the Christian religion within its system and presented as "God's commandments."

Church and religious leaders try to promote friendly relations among believers and express sympathy under certain situations of crisis experienced by some people in their family or private life. They use the fact that public organizations, state authorities and institutions do not always pay proper attention to daily moral relations and human interrelationships.

Morality problems are presented as the main justification and main argument in favor of the existence of religion and, hence, become the main area in which religion clashes with atheism. That is why objectively they become an important aspect and feature of atheistic education and in the struggle for the elimination of religion. Scientific atheistic upbringing must also face practical daily life in which the internal world of man is shaped and in which the spiritual and moral foundations of human relations and human existence are laid.

Having interpreted very briefly some aspects of the updating of religious ideology, let us now indicate some new trends in religious beliefs in our country, familiarity with which is particularly important in atheistic upbringing and its objectives.

Studies and observations of the condition, dynamics and trends of religious beliefs indicate the need for new assessments and for correcting some current concepts and erroneous views.

Let us point out, first of all, that under socialist conditions there is a difference between "clericalism" and "religious faith." Studies have indicated that churches and mosques are attended not only by believers but also by people who do not need to satisfy their needs specifically through religion. As the saying goes, they believe "neither in God nor in the devil," but regularly attend church services for no religious reason whatsoever. In some cases, clericalism is an openly manifested religious snobbery shown by some people and their conceptual nihilism, or else a form of rejection of atheism.

On the other hand, not all religious believers go to church. Some of them conceal their religious faith because of public opinion. Such people, however, continue to satisfy their religious needs at home. Atheistic education must bear in mind that in our country going to church and religious beliefs do not coincide and that the gap between them is increasingly widening.

In recent years, although religious faith in the country has declined in terms of volume and scope, it has assumed new features. We note a change in the correlation among typological groups, indicating different degrees of religion. The percentage of actively convinced believers and of people who are uncertain has declined in relative and absolute terms. The aspect of piety is now determined by the average degree of religious faith of people who

are passive (who do not disseminate religious views) but who are convinced believers. Piety, although declining in quantity, is becoming more difficult to eliminate. It has become intellectualized and its durability and support have increased. The time has come to change the old concept of the believer in our country as being exclusively an adult, uneducated or undereducated, not engaged in socially useful work. For example, today the followers of protestant sects are not only women but also the young; some of them have secondary or, in individual cases, even higher training.

Some trends in the redistribution of the influence of individual religious faiths in our country have been established. In both relative and absolute terms the highest number of people are those who have abandoned orthodox christianity, which is the predominant religious faith. Followers of Roman Catholicism and Islam have diminished as well. Compared with the followers of the Orthodox Church, however, the process among such people is relatively slower and, to a certain extent, less gradual. As to the followers of protestant sects, their numbers not only remain stable but even show a markedly rising trend, particularly among Adventists and the Pentecostals, although their share in the overall number of religious people in our country may be relatively small. Such facts call for abandoning the long-held improper view that sects in Bulgaria are unrelated to the way of life and spirituality of our people, for which reason they cannot have any particular influence.

The sects are preaching individual religious salvation. They do not acknowledge the intermediary role of the churches, for which reason their followers consider themselves missionaries and are very active in the dissemination of religious views.

Religion influences the awareness and way of thinking of some people who officially are considered nonreligious but who accept answers and solutions for many problems as provided by religion, involving the intervention of powerful and unknown forces and incredible powers, miracles, etc. Many people, including the young, have pseudoscientific and social prejudices which are primitive and noncanonized by the church or else are considered "modern," and which become particularly active in difficult situations.

The existing indifference toward religion and atheism is a manifestation not only of a conceptual lack of firmness but, frequently also indifference to conceptual problems in general. Occasionally, this phenomenon is presented as atheism, a view which is reflected on and leads to the wrong type of practical atheistic work.

Let us consider some features of the problem of youth, religion and atheism. New relations and trends in the development of society affect most strongly young people as a sociodemographic group which is in the process of shaping but has not entirely shaped its outlook, views and guidelines. In young people the clash between the new and the old, including atheism and religion, is of the greatest social importance. The attitude of young people toward religion is of great importance, for it also determines the future of piety and its further place in social and private life, the more so since most of

the nonreligious population consists essentially of people who have never been religious, i.e., the new generations.

It is true that compared with the other age groups young people show the lowest percentage of followers of religion and that atheistic gains among them are the greatest. The atheistic successes among the young generation, however, must not be absolutized and overestimated, for in itself the percentage of religious or doubting youth remains considerable. Furthermore, an interest in religion has been noted among a large number of young people, including an attraction for mysticism and so-called modern religions.

The problem of the attitude of young people toward religion has another aspect, equally important in assessing contemporary religious feelings. It is a question of the retained quantitative correlation between young religious people and religious people belonging to older age groups. Although the absolute percentage of the number of religious people in the country has declined as a whole, the percentage of young people in the overall number of religious believers has remained unchanged since 1962. The fact that their religiousness is in frequent cases nontraditional is a different matter. This is worthy of particular attention and rates a special assessment for at least two reasons. First, the fact that protecting the growing generation from the influence of religion is the main line and task in reducing and gradually eliminating the latter's reproduction. Second, the fact that the church and the religious organizations, concerned with the future of religion, are trying to concentrate essentially on young people and adolescents, with the help of religious families and a religious family microenvironment.

Nature and Characteristics of Scientific Atheistic Upbringing

Under socialist conditions religion is a reality. It is a social phenomenon with social and sociomental prerequisites. That is why steps must be taken--social, ideological and pedagogical--for its elimination precisely as a social phenomenon. "Ideological work against religious anachronisms must be intensified. Socialist holidays and ceremonies must become increasingly asserted" the theses of the 13th BCP Congress stipulate ("Theses of the 13th Congress of the BCP on the Work of the Party for the Social, Economic and Cultural Development of the Bulgarian People's Republic During the 9th 5-Year Plan (1986-1990) and Until the Year 2000." Partizdat, Sofia, 1986, p 103).

Social factors play the main role in molding and changing the spiritual world of man. They are the main objective and determining prerequisites in ideological and education work.

The growing role of the subjective factors in our country--the party, the state, the Komsomol and the other mass organizations--becomes particularly important in limiting the influence of religion and its gradual elimination. Their activities are being developed in several areas: first, the conscious and systematic development of socialist social relations, the purpose of which is to isolate and limit religion and piety; second, the deliberate elimination of social phenomena appearing essentially in the social area, which contribute to the reproduction of a religious awareness and support and nurture existing religiousness. The activities of the subjective factor help to improve the

social environment--the culture, work, way of life and system of ceremonies--and the use of its positive influence on the individual; it contributes to its deliberate inclusion in the educational process; third, the broadening of the entire system of communist and atheistic upbringing, aimed at eliminating existing religious consciousness and behavior, protecting the young generation from the influence of religion and shaping a scientific outlook and atheistic convictions in all working people.

The struggle against religion is not an aim within itself for the Communist Party and the socialist state. It is based on Lenin's atheistic principles and requirements: atheistic activities must be subordinated to building the new socialist society; the struggle against religion must be combined with strengthening the unity between the religious and nonreligious people and the elimination of religion itself must serve the unification of the working people, i.e., it must be subordinated to the "struggle for specific practical objectives in economics and politics" (V.I. Lenin, "Subt. Such." [Collected Works], vol 17, p 402).

The elimination of religion under socialism neither is nor could be exclusively a spontaneous process. Nonetheless, some public figures still believe that religion will just about wither away by itself and that there is no need to engage in specific ideological and educational activities. This view develops a passive attitude and a feeling of relaxation which do not fit the activeness of the church and of religious organizations in the dissemination of religious views, values and outlook and religious ceremonies. Nor does it take into consideration the fact that in our country religiousness is being reproduced in the new generations and that nonclerical, noncanonized superstitions exist. Furthermore, the spontaneous process of eliminating the influence of religion leads mostly to a halfway rejection of it and to increasing the number of people who are indifferent toward religion. It could be a prerequisite for shaping a scientific outlook and atheistic convictions without being able to do so by itself.

The influence of social, political and spiritual factors must be combined with education as a consciously organized process. "Religion," Marx wrote, "will disappear to the extent to which socialism develops. Its disappearance must be the result of social development in which education plays a major role" (K. Marx and F. Engels, op. cit., vol 45, p 474). It is this stipulation that guides the BCP in its activities in the areas of religion, religious relations and atheism.

Scientific atheistic upbringing is an important element in socialist spiritual culture. It is an element and aspect of ideological and conceptual education and exposes the individual and the generations to the knowledge and values developed by society in the area of scientific concepts. The purposes of atheistic upbringing are part of the overall objectives of communist education.

The purpose of an atheistic upbringing, related to its internal functions and areas, are following: a. Surmounting: to surmount the influence of religion on the awareness, behavior and way of life of believers; b. Preventive: to protect the nonreligious population, the young people and adolescents in

particular, from the influence of religion and to stop its reproduction; c. Positive: shaping a scientific outlook and atheistic convictions.

A specific feature of atheistic education is the fact that it has its critical and destructive as well as positive, forming aspect and nature. The critical and positive aspects in atheistic upbringing are manifested essentially through their ideological-theoretical content and defined by their socially necessary objective and the nature and specific features of their target, for one cannot criticize religion and its views, outlook and values without having mastered new scientific views, outlook and values and without the shaping of atheistic beliefs.

In the case of Marxist atheism and socialism, criticism and the elimination of religion are not sufficient. They are not the final objectives. They are merely a prerequisite for the real education of the individual, and for developing a scientific outlook and atheistic convictions. Under socialist conditions the simple rejection of and opposition to religion are particularly inefficient. It is precisely under socialism that it is possible and necessary not only to criticize religion but increasingly to replace it with shaping a new spiritual content. In its positive and molding phase atheistic education does not mean exclusively reeducation but also is also a relatively autonomous component along with the other components of communist upbringing.

Naturally, a positive spiritual content which develops in the individual neither is nor could be the result of exclusively and specifically atheistic activities. It is part of the overall communist upbringing, the purpose of which is to shape conscious and comprehensively developed individuals, free from all anachronisms.

The party documents include the stipulation of "comprehensive approach to ideological-theoretical, moral, aesthetic, labor and atheistic upbringing of the working people..." ("Theses of the 12th BCP Congress on the Work of the Party for the Social, Economic and Cultural Development of the Bulgarian People's Republic During the 7th 5-Year Period (1976-1980) and the Tasks During the 8th 5-Year Period (1981-1985) and Until the Year 1990." *Partizdat, Sofia, 1981, p 124*). All forms of communist upbringing contribute to atheistic education. In addition to their main objectives and functions, they contribute to the elimination of religion and to shaping a scientific atheistic outlook and belief. This, however, calls for identifying the atheistic "charge" contained in the other forms of communist education. Religion which, as Marx said, plays the role of an "encyclopedic compendium" and of a "general theory" of the world, of a "moral code," requires criticism and the respective elimination of its various aspects and facets. In other words, the criticism of religion must be comprehensive--philosophical, sociological, natural scientific, ethical, aesthetic, etc.

It is the individual who is the target of atheistic education, as of any other type of education. The individual is the bearer of a respective religious, nonreligious or varying scientific-atheistic awareness and behavior.

During the period of laying the foundations for socialism in our country attention was paid mainly on the critical aspect in atheistic upbringing. It was targeted essentially at religious people.

Today, under socialist conditions, when outlook has become more important and when the question has been raised of a deliberate conversion to the positions of a scientific atheistic outlook, we must also broaden the range of people who are targets of atheistic upbringing. Atheistic education must be conducted not only among those who are actively religious but also among those who are not religious, who are indifferent or are passively religious, with a view to strengthening their conceptual stability and surmounting their indifference toward religion and atheism, as well as developing in them a strong scientific outlook and atheistic convictions and active behavior.

Believers and doubters in matters of religion are an important and complex target of atheistic upbringing. In their case such upbringing means mainly the need for a conceptual reeducation, and a reorientation from a religious to a scientific outlook.

V.I. Lenin pointed out that atheistic education is a difficult and responsible area in the system of party ideological activities. He emphasized that we must be able to struggle against religion while, at the same time, "carefully avoiding any insulting of the feelings of believers" (V.I. Lenin, "Za Religiyata" [On Religion], Sofia, 1957, p. 51). The complexity and delicate nature of working with believers are determined by the circumstance that their awareness must be taken out of the condition of particular "inertness" in which it is found and directed toward thinking about their own piety. Difficulties in involving a significant portion of religious people in atheistic education also stem from the fact that verbal propaganda does not always reach them and mass information media are not used with sufficient efficiency in atheistic upbringing. According to V.I. Lenin, it is particularly important to develop in religious believers "interest in a conscious attitude toward religious problems and conscious criticism of religion" (V.I. Lenin, "Subr. Such." [Collected Works], vol. 45, p. 26). The question of developing a conscious attitude and consciously critical behavior toward religion is important also for a segment of the nonreligious population, those who are indifferent, those who are passively nonreligious. Young people and adolescents are a particularly important target of atheistic upbringing. They deserve particular attention and concern not only because protecting them from the influence of religion is a main line and basic task in stopping its reproduction but for another reason as well. The weak aspect of the nonreligiousness of young people is ignorance of religion based on personal experience and, in some cases, lack of adequate "immunity" to religious influence. It is no accident that it is mainly young people, who have never been religious, who are the bearers of a flippant and manifested attitude toward religion and its attributes, although lacking religious convictions.

Young people must be given information concerning religion and knowledge concerning its nature and role but not from the viewpoint of religion itself but of science and scientific philosophy, so that they may develop an accurate Marxist-Leninist view of religion. The shaping of a scientific outlook is a

prerequisite for developing and internal resistance by the individual not only to religion and its influence but also to the various idealistic errors, superstitions, etc. In this case, the thought expressed by A.S. Makarenko, according to which "every person must enter life with the ability to oppose a harmful influence. We must not protect a person from a harmful influence but teach him how to resist it" applies particularly to young people (A.S. Makarenko, "Soch." [Works], vol 5, 1958, p 457).

Consequently, not only religious but other population groups as well must be targets of atheistic upbringing. We must adopt a differentiated approach toward them, taking into consideration their social, demographic, age and other characteristics and features, as well as differences in their attitude toward religion and atheism.

Not only the role and tasks of the subjective factor, and not only as a collective subject which plans, directs and organizes atheistic education, but also those of its individual components, must be intensified even further under contemporary conditions.

The fact that adolescents and young people are a major target of atheistic education calls for enhancing atheistic educational activities in the family, the school and the entire public education system, the labor collective and the Komsomol organizations. The role of the mass information media must be intensified in the dissemination of conceptual-atheistic knowledge.

A family which includes religious people is the main link in the reproduction of religious and superstitious awareness. Such a family cannot be a factor in atheistic upbringing. For that reason, the main role in the atheistic upbringing of the children is still that of society (see A.S. Onishchenko, "Sotsialnyy Progress, Religiya, Ateizm" [Social Progress, Religion, Atheism]. Kiev, 1977, p 197). That is why we must enhance even further the role of schools and extracurricular work in promoting the conceptual and atheistic upbringing of the students. School subjects must be used in criticizing religious views by bringing to light the conceptual-atheistic content of scientific knowledge.

However, the fact that some people with secondary or higher training are religious indicates that the mastery of specific scientific knowledge is not always a guarantee of conceptual stability of the individual. The atheistic education system must make better use of mass political means of education, such as the dissemination of natural science, social science and atheistic knowledge, question and answer evenings, and training units within the system of political education conducted by the party, the Komsomol and other public organizations, and the assertion of new holidays and ceremonies, as well as in individual forms of work with people who are religious or uncertain, which requires a close knowledge of the target of educational influence.

Atheistic education, like any other form of upbringing, must provide not only an educational but an instructive function. It must offer the individual a large amount of knowledge in various scientific areas. It is thus that it enhances the overall cultural standards of the individual.

Atheistic activities and atheistic upbringing cannot be reduced merely to ideological influence. The main feature in this case is really to meet the needs of the people which had been and are being satisfied in an illusory manner. This contributes to the conceptual interpretation of successes in building socialism, the achievements of science, the scientific and technical revolution and, particularly, their practical utilization.

Atheistic education must be related to the practical participation of the people in public labor. It must contribute to shaping an active life stance and to upgrading the social activeness of the individual. The positive aspect of atheistic upbringing brings to light the truly humanistic nature of atheism.

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DRAFT OF LAW AGAINST VANDALISM EXAMINED

Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech 13 Feb 87 p 13

[Article by JUDr. Stanislav Herman: "Stricter Measures Against Vandalism"]

[Text] The onset of socialism in February 1948 inaugurated fundamental changes in our penal law policy, intended to become its effective tool. The new penal law No. 86/1950 Col. enacted in 1950 was based on the new state of legal conditions. As a consequence of further development it was replaced in 1961 by a new law No 140/1961 Col., intended primarily to protect the building of socialism.

This law, however, proceeded from premises which appear today as already overcome. When it was enacted, we were still living under the illusion that all criminality results from social injustice and is an unfortunate legacy of capitalism. But as time passed it became evident that although living standards of the population improved considerably and nobody is needy or hungry, criminality did not stop; as a matter of fact, it is committed by people who do not even remember the capitalist era.

For that reason it became obvious that indulgence and leniency do not apply. Let's set aside the controversial question with what results could be re-educated a 23 year old delinquent, already ten times convicted. Here the so-called resocialization leads often to the fact that the offender learns from his co-delinquents in the correctional institution what he has not yet known. And his thinking leads him usually to speculations where he had made a mistake and what to do next time to avoid being caught.

The profile of most of the culprits shows that they came from broken homes or at least from fatherless families. On the other hand, the fact remains that if some brute ruined your health you would hardly be interested to know if his childhood was unhappy and you would most certainly not consider it as an excuse for him. Generally, the public calls for stiffer exemplary penalties. But even there a limit exists. If the limit is exceeded and the sentence disproportionately heavy, the perpetrator could under certain circumstances take excessive risks. The experiences of criminologists prove that higher penalties do not solve the situation either and the problem remains. Improvement could only be sought by way of prevention, through

education in the family, in schools and youth organizations or at work, in other words in the entire society. It means as well to pay better attention to each individual showing signs of moral disturbance, to help him, guide him and to follow his development.

Presently we can observe however the disproportion between the punishment of delicts against physical integrity of the citizens, such as injuries leading to death and delicts against property in socialist ownership. Although the protection of socialist property in a socialist state must be of vital importance, nevertheless the human being, the citizen, is entitled to the same, if not better protection because human life, as it is often stressed, cannot be replaced.

Examples serve best to illustrate the inadequacy of the protection of the citizens' physical integrity. Rape, for instance, is punished by a prison term of 3 to 8 years, while attempted rape carries the same sentence. Conversely, bodily harm is punishable merely by deprivation of liberty for a maximum of one year or by a correctional measure and that only in case the injured suffered a working disability in excess of 7 days. Otherwise, such an act is considered as a mere misdemeanor in violation of socialist community living according to para 19 of law No 60/1961 Col. and the culprit gets away with a fine of Kcs 500 at the most, imposed by the local national committee. Consequently, the question arises what actually happens to such a delinquent, if there is any punishment at all or, in terms of prevention, if he has anything whatsoever to fear.

It is obvious that the only remedy can be a reform of the penal code, presently under preparation; it would increase the penalties for such crimes so drastically as to constitute an adequate deterrent for a potential perpetrator.

The preparation of the penal code reform offers at the same time a possibility to find the most effective way of prosecuting the contemporary plague vandalism. What could formerly be regarded as simply dumb mischief of adolescent hooligans, reached through the years such proportions that it is becoming a common occurrence exceeding all thinkable forms. As an example could be cited the recent wrecking of several railroad cars by vandalistic soccer fans. But be it only broken and cut canvas surfaces of advertisement posters, pulled out receivers in public telephone booths or damaged sculptures, it is always a proof of a perverse, absurd need to destroy. We might be able to understand, after all, even such condemnable theft as, removing of hangers, curtains and lightbulbs in trains and explain it as greediness. But how does the offender benefit from wanton destruction of state or public property when his action cannot be explained and motivated as a satisfaction of some personal revenge! Vandalism should therefore be regarded as a purely pathological phenomenon, as an expression of defective, deformed and seriously disturbed individuals.

The present possibility to legally prosecute vandalism is insufficient, because it does justice to the degree, but not to the nature of its danger for society. In the majority of cases vandalism can be prosecuted according to the current law as a criminal offense of hooliganism,

as long as it has the character of such offense, i.e. of violent action against objects committed in a public place or in a place accessible to the public. As long as such characteristics of hooliganism are lacking and the act was not committed in public or the scene of the act was not accessible to the public, vandalism may be prosecuted only as damage to property; the extent of the damage decides if it will be considered as offense, misdemeanor or criminal offense.

This, however, does not truly show the monstrosity of vandalism, the perverse intention of the perpetrator. The new penal law should therefore include a special paragraph which would individually prosecute vandalism as such, in all its extent and without taking into account the amount of damage caused. According to available information, the prosecution of animal torture should be solved in a similar way as long as there is no law for animal protection.

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